



Pen-y-Fai school's  
new rugby kit  
(SEE PAGE 25)

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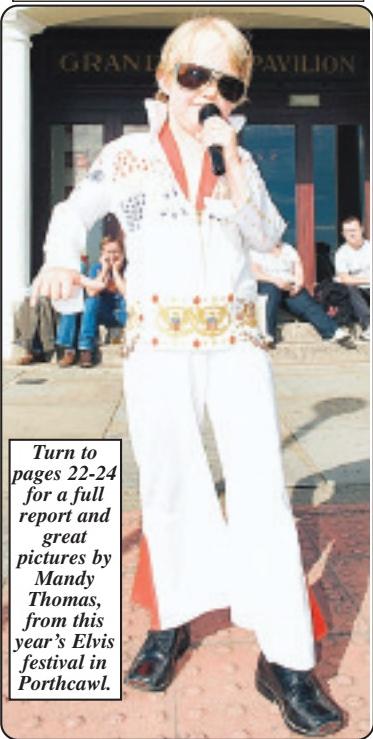
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## ALL SHOOK UP!



Turn to  
pages 22-24  
for a full  
report and  
great  
pictures by  
Mandy  
Thomas,  
from this  
year's Elvis  
festival in  
Porthcawl.

## Independents fear big squeeze if the boundaries change

**P R O P O S E D**  
changes to the  
boundaries of  
wards within  
Bridgend County  
Borough Council  
could see independ-  
ent councillors  
squeezed out by the  
big parties.

That's the fear of  
some councillors whose  
seats are disappearing as  
their wards are merged to  
create large, multi-  
member divisions.

The Local  
Government Boundary  
Commission for Wales  
recently published its  
draft proposals for the  
borough.

It has reversed its previous  
policy, which was imple-  
mented when  
BCBC was set up in  
1996. At that time, the  
commission set up a  
number of single member  
wards in order to  
improve accountability  
with electors knowing

**Report  
by JAYNE  
ISAAC**

who their councillor  
was.

But many of these  
wards are now being  
swept away, with their  
areas included in larger  
wards.

*The other fear is that  
the interests of these vil-  
lages and small communi-  
ties will be swamped  
when they are merged  
with town wards.*

The village of  
Coychurch is to lose its  
own councillor and the  
ward will be merged with  
the Oldcastle Ward of  
Bridgend.

There are fears that  
the town will outvote the  
village and that its inter-  
ests will be swamped,  
especially as the total  
number of councillors is  
to be reduced from three  
to two.

Nottage is to be  
merged with Porthcawl

East Central and Newton  
wards with Porthcawl West  
Central.

The Llangynwyd  
Middle ward will also  
disappear and become  
part of Maesteg West.

This decision is made  
more puzzling by the fact  
that Llangynwyd is not over  
represented and has a higher  
number of electors than the  
average for the council - 2,410  
electors compared to an  
average of 1,933.

The commission is  
proposing that the same  
number of councillors  
should be returned as at  
present. There are currently  
two in Maesteg West and one in  
Llangynwyd and that overall  
figure will remain the same.

The present  
Llangynwyd member is  
Plaid Cymru's Malcolm  
James who said that the  
proposal was ridiculous.

"What is the point of  
the merger? They are not  
reducing the number of  
councillors, but it means  
that Llangynwyd will no  
longer have a councillor  
to represent it alone."

"Those elected will  
have to cover the western  
side of Maesteg plus  
Llangynwyd, Cwmbran  
and Pontrhydfydd which are in my ward.  
The chances are that  
Llangynwyd will be  
swamped and all three  
councillors will come  
from Maesteg."

"Llangynwyd has  
always been separate  
from Maesteg. It has its  
own community council  
and is a totally distinct  
community. We will  
completely lose our  
identity."

Coun James said that  
Llangynwyd was the  
most historic part of the  
valley.

"It is a semi-rural area  
with different problems  
from those of a town. It  
needs its own council-  
or identity."

Mr James said that he  
had placed this on the  
agenda for the next  
meeting of the commu-  
nity council.

He added: "People in  
Llangynwyd have to  
wake up to the threat."

Another councillor  
unhappy with the pro-  
posals is Independent  
Mel Winter who currently  
represents Aberkenfig. This ward  
includes Coytbraen but  
will disappear totally  
under the proposals.

(CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 6).

## Pencoed teacher is on the run... for Finlay's Fund!

A LOCAL teacher  
is donning his running  
shoes - to raise cash for an  
operation that could help a young  
Bridgend boy to walk again.

On October 17, Ryan  
Thornton will be running the  
Lloyds TSB Cardiff Half Marathon.

Ryan, who teaches IT  
at Pencoed Comprehensive  
School, will be raising money  
for the 'Fix Finlay Fund', which is trying to  
finance an operation in  
America for Finlay Brunt, a Bridgend boy  
who has cerebral palsy.

Ryan and other  
fundraisers believe that  
if they can raise enough  
sponsorship money, the  
operation could allow  
Finlay to walk, otherwise  
he will spend his teenage  
years in a wheelchair.

Ryan explained: "The  
operation will cut away  
nerves running from  
Finlay's muscles to his  
spinal chord."

"He has Spastic  
Diplegia, which affects  
his ability to move, as it  
makes him walk on his  
toes - leading to him  
falling over. The operation  
is aimed at reducing that."

The Fix Finlay Fund  
will need to secure  
£40,000.

Ryan added: "The Fix  
Finlay Fund has a num-  
ber of events every  
weekend to raise money  
and so far we have made  
£17,000."

"We've had Fun Days  
at Pencoed College, and  
there will be a psychic  
night too."

"Personally, I will be  
trying to pass the £1,000  
barrier if I can."

"I am the only person  
running for Fix Finlay  
that I'm aware of, and I  
will be running with the  
charity's t-shirt on,  
which has a picture of  
Finlay."

Ryan added: "The Fix  
Finlay Fund has brought  
the community together  
- Brackla in particular."

"The Pencoed area  
also got involved, and now  
the whole of  
Bridgend is behind  
Finlay."

Those wishing to sup-  
port Ryan Thornton's  
run can visit his  
fundraising page at  
[www.fixfinlay.org.uk](http://www.fixfinlay.org.uk)



ABOVE:  
Pencoed teacher Ryan Thornton will be  
running for the 'Fix Finlay Fund'.

**Wedding Fayres** for Autumn 2010

**Caerphilly Castle**

**Caerphilly**  
Tel. 01443 336106  
This Sunday,  
3rd October.  
11.00am - 4.00pm

**St Mellons Hotel**

**Castleton,**  
**Cardiff**  
Tel. 01633 680355  
Next Sunday,  
10th October.  
11.00am - 4.00pm

**Autumn Fayres Update...**

New House Hotel, Cardiff (02920 520280)  
Sunday 31st October 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

The Coed-Y-Mwstwr Hotel, Coyauchur (01656 860621)  
Sunday 7th November 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

The Parc Hotel, Cardiff City Centre  
Sunday 12th December 2010, 11.00am - 4.00pm

If you require any details please email  
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Constituency Office - 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend.  
Telephone 01656 750002.

HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore  
Constituency Office 01656 737777

JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore  
Constituency Office 01656 860034

CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend  
Constituency Office 01656 664320

BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, 26  
Dunraven Place, Bridgend 01656 654951

MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau  
01656 734662

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111  
(Emergency number 999)

COASTGUARD 01792 366534

GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999

ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400

WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130

HELPLINES

Alcohol and drugs:  
DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435

SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333

MENTAL DISTRESS  
(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

CHILDLINE 0800 1111

NSPCC 0800 800500

RSPCA 0300 123 0744

WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139

Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479

Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
Housing service  
(General inquiries) 01656 643643;

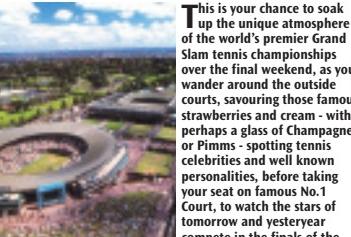
HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643  
(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

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## Changes, yes, but let's not forget what we have to offer!

**T**HIS is the first of a regular monthly column for The GEM. I see it as a great opportunity to speak directly to readers about topics which are important to them, as well as those areas which I think we as a council need to explain more about.

With the political party conference season under way and non-stop talk in the news about cuts and spending fears, it would be easy to devote my whole column to this important topic.

As we await next month's Comprehensive Spending Review and WAG's subsequent budget, these are certainly worrying times for local government, and managing services, with reducing budgets is foremost in the minds of my cabinet colleagues and officers.

But we have already embarked on a wide-ranging efficiencies programme which, along with the sensible way we have managed our finances in recent years, will stand us in good stead for the

At the last meeting of Porthcawl Town Council, I once again proposed that our handyman rotavate and seed/turf the small piece of land in Puddle Lane that local residents and volunteers cleared.

Once again, Coun Alana Davies persuaded other councillors to vote against it.

To justify her position, she argues that we can't be seen to spend money on land that isn't ours (our handyman already strims the grass!) and there may be "legal implications" in the future.

Ownership has previously been looked into (according to Coun Bunker, one of her own party), and no-one came forward.

After saying that no owner could be found, Coun Bunker then supported Coun Davies on not doing work on "private property". Talk about contradicting yourself. It has now been

### FOLLOW THE (BCBC) LEADER



**Coun Mel Nott,**

Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council

future. That is not to say that we don't face some very difficult choices.

However, what the ongoing financial crisis has forced us to do is to think in a more collaborative and innovative way.

A great example of this is what we are doing with our office accommodation, as reported in The GEM very recently.

Next month, staff will start to move into the Raven's Court building, which we acquired earlier this year, meaning we do not have to pay rent on many satellite offices.

The savings we will make with this move, and our other efficiencies surrounding accommodation, will

be significant and it will also mean staff will be working even more closely – which can only benefit you, our customers.

*This will be a subject I'll be returning to, but I do want to focus on some of the positive news we have received recently.*

The news of a developer for Porthcawl was very welcome this summer, as was the funding for the ongoing regeneration of Bridgend.

These two announcements will help us really drive forward our ambitions for these towns; we are similarly ambitious for Maesteg and Pencoed.

But let's not fall into the trap of failing to appreciate what we have already. We are blessed with a beautiful and diverse landscape here in Bridgend county borough.

Certainly, visitors to our borough often remark on how fortunate we are with our mix of towns, coast, valleys, and fantastic links to our neighbours.

*Yes, there are things we need to develop and change, but there are also clear strategies in place to do this.*

*I think we can all feel proud of what we have and positive about what is still to come.*

## Councillors who are afraid of their own shadows

**A**t the last meeting of Porthcawl Town Council, I once again proposed that our handyman rotavate and seed/turf the small piece of land in Puddle Lane that local residents and volunteers cleared.

referred to the admin committee (of which she is a member). This work will cost in the region of £200 and once done, a neighbour has offered to look after it. What more can you ask?

Coun Davies is hoping that the Town Council will agree to pay for a pedestrian crossing on Newton/Nottage Road.

This pet project will cost well in excess of £20,000. I expect she's hoping this will impress her electorate.

I do not believe that borough councillors should 'double' as town councillors. They are so steeped in the culture of BCBC that they are afraid of their own shadows and only support those projects that appear 'politically' or 'socially' correct (and that locals have little to do with) and are not interested in the small things that mean so much to our residents.

They are so concerned with doing things the 'correct' way that they end up doing nothing at all. Is it any wonder that most people have lost all faith in local politicians?

Coun Jill Sweet, Porthcawl

## Employees urged to learn sign language

A NEW initiative to encourage more employees to take up sign language as an extra language and skill during is coming to Bridgend.

Signs4Life are setting up introductory employee in-house courses in sign language, towards equipping people to communicate with the deaf and hard of hearing community in the county borough.

Explains Ms Fozia Parveen, Signs4Life managing director: "You never know when you will come into contact with a customer, a colleague or member of the public who is deaf or hearing impaired."

"There are over nine million deaf and hard of hearing people registered in the UK and we are working with organisations as varied as supermarkets, activity centres, the prison service, the Red Cross, housing associations, local councils, BT, hotels, care homes, opticians, hospitals, Royal Mail, schools and colleges, travel agents and even photographers, hairdressers and holiday parks."

"Each of our certificated courses help you comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and meet your corporate responsibility. The forthcoming 'Learn to Sign Week' between October 4-11 would be a great opportunity to introduce some deaf awareness into the workplace."

Fozia has a younger sister Aneesa (9) who was born partially deaf, which encouraged Fozia to learn sign language.

Signs4Life is leading efforts to see a society in which deaf people have full



ABOVE:  
Positive signs in Bridgend?

access and is working hard to raise public and political awareness of hearing impairment.

The organisation is also behind campaigns introducing sign language into the education system alongside other languages like French and Spanish, and baby signing classes for parents and baby groups in local nurseries and children's centres.

Signs4Life's chosen charity this year is The National Deaf Children's Society.

If you would like further information about Signs4Life employee or baby signing courses in the Bridgend area, contact with Fozia on 07964 019 764 or visit interactive website [www.signs4life.org.uk](http://www.signs4life.org.uk).

## Putting people out of work does not help the economy

**I**CANNOT see how putting people out of work does anything for the economy?

down on the banks, and get our troops out of Afghanistan where they are on a lost cause.

Stop pensions for

anybody with brass, headteachers, and any Government officials earning over £100,000.

I personally think that they are not worth £100,000, and I see over 200,000 people are in danger of losing their houses – just like the Thatcher years.

(Name and address supplied)

### HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 7)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
30 Thur	10.59	8.5	23.28	8.1
01 Fri	11.58	8.0		
02 Sat	00.41	7.6	13.19	7.8
03 Sun	02.14	7.6	14.53	7.9
04 Mon	03.45	8.0	16.09	8.6
05 Tues	04.47	8.8	17.12	9.1
06 Wed	05.38	9.5	18.05	10.1
07 Thur	06.28	10.2	18.51	10.5



ABOVE:  
Elvis is spotted in Porthcawl! Turn to pages 22, 23 & 24.

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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# WELSH ASSEMBLY HANDS OUT GRANT

# £750,000 windfall from fund to help upgrade post offices

**FIVE Post Offices in Bridgend county borough have received a £750,000 windfall from the Post Office Diversification Fund.**

Aberkenfig, Blaengarw, Caerau, Llangynwyd and Porthcawl Post Offices, along with 40 other sub-Post Offices across Wales, including Wick, will share over £725,000 from the Welsh Assembly Government scheme, Social Justice Minister Carl Sargeant announced last week.

A spokeswoman said that Aberkenfig Post Office will use

the funds to install CCTV and improve accessibility to the premises. Blaengarw Post Office will also use their grant to improve accessibility, as well as making general improvements to the premises.

At Caerau Post Office, the funds will help move postal facilities into a nearby shop and will also help with staff training and wages. Porthcawl Post Office will spend the money on upgrades to the premises and at Llangynwyd Post Office the money will help pay staff wages.

Mr Sargeant commented: "Our Post Offices play an important role in the community and I am

delighted to show my support to them through this scheme."

"The grant will be used to improve Post Offices, providing a better environment for staff to work in and a better service for the local community. I am delighted that so many Post Offices across Wales have taken advantage of the scheme."

"Around 140 Post Offices throughout Wales have already benefited from the fund, creating 112 jobs."

"This latest funding round will help a further 41 Post Offices and create 18 full time jobs at Post Offices across the country."

## Cold comfort for passengers at the Maesteg bus station

AS autumn deepens and winter approaches, the minds of members of Maesteg Town Council have turned once again to an annual issue at this time of year – the need to provide bus passengers in the town with somewhere warm and dry to wait for buses.

Previous discussions on the topic have produced no results so far and passengers are again looking at the prospect of another winter waiting for buses in an open sided shelter exposed to the wind and cold.

Coun Phil Jenkins has raised this topic regularly, arguing for action from the borough council which owns the bus station. He was told last year that the borough was looking at it but nothing was done during the summer.

Coun Jenkins told members that despite Phase 4 of the town's regeneration scheme including plans to refurbish the bus station, there was no likelihood of this happening soon, because no money had yet been forthcoming for the project.

"Another month has gone by and we have heard nothing," he said. "The Town council needs to contact the borough council on this matter. We have set aside some money to contribute towards this work but our request for a small, enclosed waiting area is being ignored."

"People cannot go through another winter with the bus station in the state that it is in."

Coun Keith Edwards said that BCBC was waiting for news about the funding of Phase 4.

"We should have had it by now but we have not. When they know how much grant funding is available, we will have the bigger picture. Whether we get the full scheme or a revised one will depend on the funding."

The town council should pursue the borough to see what was happening, he insisted.

The refurbishment of the bus station and the outdoor market was relegated by BCBC to the final phase of the town centre regeneration despite many people arguing that it was the most crucial element. Now, with millions having been spent on widen-

**Report by JAYNE ISAAC**

ing pavements in Commercial Street, which were already the widest in the borough; replacing the old pavements with new slabs that are stained and filthy and cannot be cleaned; installing wooden seats which are easily vandalised and planting trees which may have to be felled because they interfere with the CCTV cameras, there is no money left for the work of upgrading the market and bus station which lie in the heart of the town.

Consultants have produced some draft proposals and one version of this is for the waiting area adjoining Maesteg Town Hall to be enclosed with glass to give passengers an area out of the wind and rain. This would be protected with roller shutters at night.

But there is no indication as yet if this scheme will be adopted and if money will be available.

Meanwhile, market traders who have stalls in the outdoor market are concerned about what will happen if the market is closed for 18 months while work is under way. Some of them own their stalls in any case.

The last revamp of the outdoor market, carried out by Ogwr Borough Council in the early 1990s, has been branded a disaster by everyone and is blamed for the almost terminal decline of the market which no longer attracts more than a handful of itinerant traders to what was a very large and busy Friday outdoor market.

Permanent traders fear that if it closes and they are re-located temporarily while work is under way, they will lose business and income.

*These issues all have to be resolved, but everything is on hold until there is news of the funding.*

## Brynteg school rocks back into the past!

**BRYNTLEG School will perform the hit West End rock 'n' roll Show, Return to The Forbidden Planet, at the Porthcawl Pavilion from October 20 – 22 (7.30pm).**

It is unique in the fact that the band is part of the cast and the cast are part of the band, whilst the audience are passengers on the doomed voyage.

This is the first time that Brynteg School has taken a production to the Pavilion.

There are so many talented pupils at the school that two casts

have been created to take part in the production!

So put on your 'Blue Suede Shoes' and come and 'Shake, Rattle and Roll' while being taken back to your past remembering 'The Young Ones' who were Born to be Wild'. We are sure you will be 'Wiped Out' by the end of the show and leave thinking, 'Goodness Gracious Great Balls of Fire.'

Tickets can be purchased at [www.grand-pavilion.co.uk](http://www.grand-pavilion.co.uk) or telephone 01656 815995; ticket prices are £8 for adults and £6 for children and concessions. A family ticket for four is £25.

CJ

## KRUF group praised for their fundraising efforts



**MEMBERS of the Porthcawl KRUF (Kidney Research Unit for Wales Foundation) committee recently held a very successful coffee morning at the Atlantic Hotel.**

work and wished them success.

The coffee morning raised £15, thanks to the generosity of those who attended or donated items for the raffle and for sale.

A cheque for £130 was also presented to the committee by the Newtonian Ladies Bowls Club.

All the amounts raised are donated to either the kidney unit at the Heath Hospital, Cardiff, or Morriston Hospital, Swansea, where local people with kidney problems are treated.

*The photos above and right show Mr Roy Thomas with members of the committee at the coffee morning and Mrs Adams, treasurer of the Newtonian Bowls Club, presenting their cheque.*

**GAIL RALPH  
(KRUF committee)**

**Cheque-mates in Porthcawl!**



## Bridgend band is going places

**BRIDGEND-BASED Mabon are a Welsh band who are going places – first to Cardiff Castle to perform at the First Minister of Wales's special Ryder Cup dinner (Saturday, October 2), then to Copenhagen (Saturday, October 30) where they will represent Wales at the WOMEX world music trade fair and next January to the world's largest winter music festival – Glasgow's Celtic Connections.**

The South Wales six-piece who were one of the highest CD-selling bands at the famous Croesyfelin Festival last month (despite a Friday 13 jinx which temporarily left half the band stranded near the Severn Bridge!), will get national radio airplay on BBC Radio 3's *World on 3* in October.

*They start a UK tour at Wrexham on October 7 which will also take in gigs at Presteigne Assembly Rooms (October 9) and Cardiff's The Globe (November 4). On October 25, they release their debut live album recorded at The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, together with bonus DVD.*

## Nearly new sale for childbirth charity

**A NEARLY new donation £1 per family (formerly Bridgend, Baby/children's clothes, Cowbridge and Llanwit toys, equipment (eg Major branch) which is prams) and maternity raising funds to train three breastfeeding counsellors.**

Donations, cakes and raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Contact Julie on 01656 662564 or email [nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk](mailto:nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk).

Proceeds in aid of The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### STREET SURGERIES

Huw Irranca-Davies, MP for Ogmore, is holding street surgeries as follows:

Monday, October 4, Coytrenah 9.30am-10.30am; Cwmfelin 2pm-3pm.

Wednesday, October 6, Bleaengarw 10am-11am.

Thursday, October 7, Gilfach Goch 10am-11am; Evanstown 11.30am-12.30pm.

Contact the MP on 01656 737777.

### NCT CHARITY EVENT

The NCT Vale and Valleys branch is holding a children's disco on Saturday, October 16 at Cowbridge Leisure Centre from 10am-12noon (£2.50/child or £5/family, tickets on door).

Decorate a gingerbread man, face painting, balloons, sweets, lucky dip, fancy dress and other competitions.

Stalls for Christmas shopping: books, toys, cards, chocolates. Everyone welcome.

# Doctor's epic cycle ride to help grant a wish to sick children

A local doctor is undertaking a 4,500-mile cycle ride from Norway to Sicily – to raise money for the Starlight Children's Foundation, the charity for children with serious and terminal illnesses.

Taking up the arduous challenge with two friends, Alice Williams and Philippa Colby, Dr Hazel Learner (26) is cycling from the northemmost point of Norway to the southernmost point of Sicily – a staggering 4,500 miles that the trio hope to cover within just three months.

The work that Starlight does for poorly children across the UK is really valuable and we are proud to support the charity through this challenge."

Hazel, Alice and Philippa are hoping to raise £1 for Starlight for every one of the 4,500

half the distance. Hazel, a doctor in Barry when she's not on her bike, said of the challenge: "We've done 2,000 miles in five weeks and are still feeling good. We've seen an amazing array of scenery from the mountains in Norway to the Berlin wall and I'm looking forward to crossing the Alps into Italy!"

"As a doctor, I have worked closely with sick children and, by giving them some much-needed fun and distraction through either hospital entertainment or once in a life time wishes, they are much more likely to respond positively to treatment."

The work that Starlight does for poorly children across the UK is really valuable and we are proud to support the charity through this challenge."

Hazel, Alice and Philippa are hoping to raise £1 for Starlight for every one of the 4,500



ABOVE: Ready for the off are: Hazel, Alice and Philippa.

miles cycled on the grueling journey.

The money that they raise will help provide fun and distraction for poorly children across the United Kingdom, including eight sick children who are currently hoping

to have their wishes granted by Starlight.

If you would like to make a donation, you can sponsor Hazel and friends at: [www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/cyclingsandwichladies](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/cyclingsandwichladies).

Already, the intrepid trio have covered over

## School is to offer academic scholarships

ST CLARE'S School in Newton, Porthcawl is to offer academic scholarships to children from the Porthcawl, Bridgend and Vale areas.

It announced last week that assessment would take place on November 20.

Scholarships are available for pupils with clear academic ability, hoping to enter the school between year-5 and 10.

Assessment will consist of three examinations based on mathematics, English and non-verbal reasoning, together with an interview, for successful candidates with the Headmaster.

In addition, subject specific scholarships may also be awarded throughout the year in modern foreign languages, sciences, music, art and humanities.

## DEATH OF BOY (13) NOT TREATED AS SUSPICIOUS'

AN inquest is being opened by the Bridgend coroner into the death of a 13-year-old boy found dead at his home.

Police have confirmed that the boy was Carl Robertshaw of Bryntirion.

He was the son of Clare Gore and Neil Robertshaw and has an older brother Lewis.

He was a pupil at Bryntirion Comprehensive School.

Police have confirmed that the death was not being treated as suspicious and was being investigated on behalf of the coroner.

It is understood that Carl was found hanged but a police spokesman refused to confirm this.

## Art exhibition at Berwyn Centre

THE Berwyn Centre at Nantymoel is staging its annual open art exhibition by artists from all over south Wales from October 5-29.

Organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development, the exhibition includes over 120 works in watercolour, pencil, pastel, oil, acrylic, digital photography and ceramics.

It is open Mondays 9am - 1pm and 3.30pm-5pm; Tuesdays 9am-7pm; Wednesdays 9am-5pm; Thursdays 9am-1pm and 4pm-6pm; and Fridays 9am-5pm. Admission is free.

## Porthcawl shop lifter had 64 convictions – COURT TOLD

A shop lifter has been sentenced to a community order for six months with a drug treatment requirement, at Cardiff Crown Court, writes Tony Scluina.

James Peters (36) of Porthcawl admitted before Vale magistrates two offences of theft and was committed to the crown court for sentence.

The court heard that he had 64 previous convictions exclusively for shop lifting.

Judge Neil Bidder said: "I can honestly say I have never seen a record exclusively for shop lifting."

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said Peters had been fined, given community orders, sen-

tenced to custody, given a suspended sentence and a conditional discharge.

Mr Trigg said that on June 26 he stole two bottles of whisky from Pyle Cooperative stores and on August 4, stole another two bottles.

He was spotted by security staff and arrested.

His counsel Hugh Wallace said: "This year, he appears to be making some progress."

"He is on methadone but he still needs a drink every so often."

The judge said: "I don't propose to send you to prison, as it could disrupt your progress in getting off drugs."

He warned him: "If you continue, you will have a short and degraded life."

## Birthday wishes

I WOULD like to wish Walter Jones, of Brynmelyn, a happy and healthy 96th birthday today Thursday (September 30).

Walter was employed as a green keeper at Southerndown golf course for a number of years, and is still a keen gardener, growing most of his plants from collected seeds.

He was a keen dancer until problems with his hips slowed him down.

He is also a church goer at St Bride's church, Llanfawrfaid. He still drives his own car.

## WI meeting

IT'S nice to put a face to the voice on the phone!

On Saturday evening, I met Lynne at the charity concert in Ogmore Vale. She keeps me informed on the WI activities in Pen-y-Fai.

At a recent meeting, Jean Griffiths, the president, welcomed everyone back after the summer recess.

Birthday greetings went to two members. She also welcomed six new members who were joining this month.

Chris Phillips then read correspondence received during the summer recess; firstly, the rise in annual subscription rates which next year will be £30.

Secondly, James Howells of Cardiff has invited members to a special event at the end of November, which will cost £1 per ticket, which includes a drink and nibbles.

There will also be a price reduction of 10 per cent on goods throughout the store.

Congratulations also went to Beryl Nicholas who had won second prize at the Glamorgan Federation's show in the community centre, North Cornelly for a loaf of bread.

Finally, thanks were given to Phoenix who had set up a stall at the Pen-y-fai village fun day; this had raised £116 for the WI.

Jean Griffiths then invited a committee member, Sue Jones, to speak on her recent trip to Fiji, during which she had visited a local school. She was completely dismayed at the poor facilities the children were being provided with.

I am sure if people spoke to each other and prevented these clashes, their efforts would raise even more money from the generous residents in the area, who like to support both.

## School events

Ogmore Vale primary

school has changed its

Harvest Festival

Service to today

(Thursday, September 30).

Hopefully, this will increase donations of tinned and packaged foods, which after the service will be sent to the food bank.

This is a worthy organisation details of which, were published in

## NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns

of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: [tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk)



Saint's church vicarage in Pen-y-Fai on October 20 at 7pm.

This is the branch silver anniversary year and each month they have held a competition on items connected with silver.

This gives them the opportunity to discuss with the pupil's teacher any concerns about a child's progress.

Forms will be sent home with the children for everyone to fill in a convenient time for them to go along to the school.

## Concert

I AM pleased to report that the recent concert at Aberkenfig Bible Church, given by the Maesteg Gleemen male voice choir to raise money to provide hot refreshments to old age pensioners and less well off residents in Aberkenfig, raised £435. Well done to the choristers from Maesteg, who gave up their free time to help.

Pastor John Kingdon is now asking if any local firm is willing to sponsor a coffee making machine to help these facilities. The recent murder mystery evening held at St John's church, Aberkenfig, to raise funds for Macmillan cancer care nurses, achieved the sum of £800.

Both events held above were in churches no further than 800 metres apart on the same evening. Why don't the organisers who put a great deal of effort into helping others, speak to each other, and prevent this clashing of events? This appears to occur in Aberkenfig on a regular basis.

I am sure if people spoke to each other and prevented these clashes, their efforts would raise even more money from the generous residents in the area, who like to support both.

## Charity concert

I ATTENDED the Ogmore Vale male voice choir's charity concert at the Canolfan Bethlehem Centre last Saturday evening, and was pleased to see AM Janice Gregory and her husband again supporting local charity.

The concert was held to raise funds to help the parents of Finlay Brun to send him to America for an operation.

A brief word on the venue, the acoustics are brilliant and the interior is very well decorated. It is a shame that other musical organisations in the Bridgend CBC area do not do the same as this

choir and help these redundant religious buildings survive.

The concert was a great success and congratulations must go to musical director Eira Paskin, accompanist Debbie Lewis and the choir's soloist Catrin Eleri Jenkins.

The choir, which was in brilliant form, started the evening with Deus Salutis ('Llef'), a very appropriate 'What have they done to the Rain?' and 'Stout Hearted Men'.

It was followed by wonderful soprano Catrin Eleri Jenkins singing *Panis Angelicus*, accompanied on the grand piano by Eira Paskin; and the choir then sang two more pieces including 'My Lord, what a morning' completely without any accompanying music.

Urdd Eisteddfod winner of his category, 13-year-old Rhidian Jenkins of Maesteg gave beautiful renditions of 'Ar Lan Y Mor', 'Yr Hen wr Mwyn' (both folk songs sung without accompaniment), an old favourite 'Who is Sylvia' and 'Dechrau Dyfodol'.

Before the evening ended with 'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau', Ian (the father of Finlay) was presented with a cheque for £500.

The operation and accommodation in America is costing £40,000, which still has some way to go to be achieved. I wish his parents every success.

The choir practises every Thursday evening at 7pm at Canolfan Bethlehem and welcomes new recruits. So if you are interested in singing and are looking for a rewarding and enjoyable hobby that contributes to the community, why not join?

**Harvest festival**  
The following churches will be celebrating this special time of year on Sunday, October 3: St Bride's, Llanfawrfaid, St David's, Betws and St John's, Aberkenfig.

At St John's, there will be a barn dance in the evening with the calling and music provided by 'Calennig'. This will not be a fundraising event, but entry is by ticket only and is free.

## An AM pops into Wick to say 'congratulations!'

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, visited Wick Post Office last week to congratulate them on securing a Post Office diversification fund grant from the Welsh Assembly Government.

"A total of 41 post offices in



ABOVE: The AM is flanked by Christina Dixon of Wick Post Office and local resident Conway Hawkins.

# Drinker's suspended prison sentence following assault

**Report by AJ SICLUNA**

An "entrenched drinker" attacked a man in his home, after the two had spent the day in a pub, it was stated at Cardiff Crown Court.

Mark Grant (37) unemployed of Bridgend, admitted causing Mark David actual bodily harm.

## Jewellery taken in house burglary

POLICE are investigating a burglary on Colman Road, Pen-y-Fai on Saturday September 25.

A 67-year-old woman arrived home from a night out to find a number of distinctive jewellery pieces had been stolen.

Among the stolen property was a silver four leaf clover brooch, a gold chain with purple stones, a square set engagement ring and a five stone eternity ring.

Sergeant Fiona Haggerty said: "The jewellery has significant personal value to the owner. We're appealing for any witnesses who may have seen any suspicious persons or vehicles in or around this location to please contact us."

Telephone 101, or alternatively call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**  
**ST BRIDES MAJOR**  
Your local correspondent is  
Patricia Bevan-Morgan  
(01656) 880418

A COMMUNITY council meeting was held at the church hall on September 13.

The meeting was adjourned to allow Mr N White (club treasurer) of the Penybont Surf Lifesaving Club to speak about plans for the club to apply for a Lottery grant, in order to reinstate the slipway on the Ogmor Beach and make improvements to the club's premises.

The club were not asking for financial backing from the Community Council, but seeking support to demonstrate that the facilities would be used by the community.

After re-convening the meeting, the chairman declared that the council would support the proposal to re-instate the slipway and the improvement to the Surf Lifesaving Building.

**FRIENDS of the Heritage Coast** held their open day on September 19, to launch the electronic education facilities now available at the centre.

The day was well attended by people who have been supporting the project, including deputy Major of Llanwit Major EN Power manager, Wick community council, St Athan community council.

A HARVEST thanksgiving service was held at All Saints, Southerndown, on September 19, when all the 'good old' harvest hymns were sung with gusto by the congregation.

This service was followed by refreshments. Contributions were given instead of material goods

had a drinking session after which there was some "robust horseplay". Mr David fell asleep on a sofa and woke to find Grant punching him to the face.

Judge David Wynn Morgan said: "An enormous amount of alcohol was drunk.

## OBITUARY: Mrs Moira Budd, Llangynwyd

A WOMAN who was a village institution in Llangynwyd has died. Mrs Moira Budd, who lived at White Hart Cottages until shortly before her death, passed away at the age of 94.

Mrs Budd was a familiar figure to generations of villagers, working as a cleaner in the village church and also in Bethesda Welsh Independent Chapel.

Mrs Budd was left a widow in 1947, when her husband was killed in an accident at Pentre Colliery, at the age of 31.

With four young children to look after, including a one-year-old baby daughter Mary, Mrs Budd resorted to hard work to pay her way, cleaning and wall papering throughout the area.

She lost a seven-year-old son Raymond just before her husband's death.

Another son Cyril died 12 years ago. She is survived by her sons Glyn and David and daughter Mary.

Mrs Budd was active well into her nineties and was a familiar figure walking up the hill to the village. She remained at home, cared for by family, until just before her death when she moved to Bryn Celyn residential home.

Her funeral, which attracted many mourners, was held at St Cynwyd's Church and was conducted by Rev Geraldine Blyth, vicar of Llangynwyd, and Rev Cyril Laski.

There was a message of condolence from former vicar Rev Bernard Thomas, who now lives in St Asaph.

## After Elvis, the Lions get in pink for charity

"*THE Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning was a great success,*" reported Porthcawl Lions president Ralph Anslow.

"In addition to 'Elvis' being present, the club raised over £300 for that worthwhile charity," he added.

Porthcawl Lions have thanked all who supported that event and hope for more support for their Breast Cancer Care Cymru Pink coffee morning at the Atlantic Hotel, Porthcawl on Friday October 29 at 10am. Admission is £3 which includes coffee plus biscuits.

*Those attending are asked to wear at least one item of clothing coloured Pink. Tickets are available from Sonia on 01656 772374, or Carole on 01656 788921.*

Porthcawl Lions meet at the Seabank Hotel on the first and second Tuesdays of the month at 8pm and new members are always made welcome.

The next Lions' event is their book sale at the Rest Hotel on October 23-24, where once again a very large selection of books will be on display. Admission is from 10am and is free.

## Quilt exhibition

AN exhibition of quilts is being staged in Cwmfelin, by Yr Aelwyd School of Needlework at the village hall on Saturday, October 9, from 10am-2pm.

Visitors will be able to look at the beautiful patchwork and quilting done by members of the school, plus others exhibiting different crafts, including hand made jewellery, fabric and cards.

This is the group's third annual exhibition and refreshments will be provided by the Cwmfelin Senior Citizens group which uses the hall. Entertainment will be provided by Daniel Brace.

The tutor of the group is Anne Wilkes. Admission is free and all are welcome.

# Villagers braced for battle to save a primary school

VILLAGERS in Heol-y-Cyw are gearing themselves up to fight plans to close their primary school.

**Report by JAYNE ISAAC**

and would wipe out the budget deficit enabling the school to keep going.

The cabinet voted at its last meeting to close the school from 2011 with pupils transferring to Pencoed next September.

Pupils number have dropped and the school had 47 pupils at the start of the new term including nine in the nursery.

The cabinet also heard that while it had been hoped to provide a new school in Pencoed capable of also taking the Heol-y-Cyw children, no money has been found for this, although the scheme is being put forward to the Welsh Assembly Government for funding.

## Pupils and mothers in union to raise Macmillan funds

THE children of St. Brides School welcomed their families and members of the Mothers' Union to school on Friday, September 24 for the Macmillan coffee morning.



Union organised a cake stall which raised £73.

The school are delighted to have raised a total of £272.68 for Macmillan and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

## St Clare's raises £300!

STAFF, pupils and parents from St Clare's School held a coffee morning and 'Welly-Throw' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support's Biggest Coffee Morning Event last Friday, September 24.

ICT teacher Mark Lewis set the new St Clare's welly-throwing record!

The staff also held a coffee morning and enjoyed Mrs Moon's homemade cakes.

The school raised a total of £317 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Headmaster, John Aguilar, commented: "St Clare's School supports a number of charities throughout the year. All the pupils and visitors thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

"There was some memorable welly-throwing, with records broken! We are delighted to be able to put on an event in support of such a worthy cause." DM



ABOVE:  
Tom Dalton gives it some welly!



ABOVE:  
EYE-SPY – Carla Prinsloo.



Year 12 Senior prefects: (l-r) Danielle Thomas, Mirali Patel, Peter Fodor, Genella Carroll-Cosslett, Catherine Moloughney.

# Loving tribute is paid to 'Li'l Dan' by his family

A 15-year-old boy who died in an incident involving an off-road motorcycle in Bridgend has been named as Daniel Edwards.

The fatal incident occurred at around 3.45pm on Wednesday, September 22 in fields near the Court Colman Hotel in the Bryntirion area.

Daniel was treated by paramedics but died at the scene.

A 21-year-old male was questioned by police in connection with the incident, but has since been released on police bail.

Dan 'known as 'Li'l Dan' to his friends, was the much-loved son of Lynne and Rob, brother to Hannah and Leanne, uncle to Taylor and future brother-in-law to Hywel.

Today they paid tribute to him, saying: "Motorcycling was his passion. He had just embarked upon his

GCSE course at the Bethlehem Life Centre in Cefn Cribwr; success at this would have enabled him to fulfil his future dream of becoming a motorcycle mechanic.

"Dan was a young man who worked hard at his lessons, was making excellent progress, and had a great sense of fun.

"The many friends he made in his class will miss him greatly.

"We will never forget the love and friendship so many of you showed towards him."

They have now asked to be left alone to deal with their tragic loss.

*Police are asking for anyone who witnessed the incident, or may have seen the teenager in the area at the time accompanied by another male on an off-road motorcycle, to contact Bridgend CID on 101 or 0800 555 111.*

## After Elvis, the Lions dress in pink for charity

"THE Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning was a great success," reported Porthcawl Lions president Ralph Anslow.

"In addition to Elvis being present, the club raised over £300 for that worthwhile charity," he added.

Porthcawl Lions have thanked all who supported that event and hope for more support for their Breast Cancer Care Cymru Pink coffee morning at the Atlantic Hotel, Porthcawl on Friday October 29 at 10am. Admission is £3 which includes coffee plus biscuits.

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Porthcawl Lions meet at the Seabank Hotel on the first and second Tuesdays of the month at 8pm and new members are always made welcome.

*The next Lions' event is their October book sale at the Rest Hotel on October 23-24, where once again a very large selection of books will be on display. Admission is from 10am and is free.*

## TRANSPORT SCHEMES GET GO-AHEAD

## Multi-million pound projects in Bridgend

A BID for funding for transport schemes in Bridgend worth millions of pounds has been approved by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The schemes were included in the Regional Transport five-year plan which has been put together by SEWTA - the South East Wales Transport Alliance, which consists of all ten councils in an areas stretching from Bridgend eastwards to Monmouth and as far north as Merthyr Tydfil.

The schemes submitted for Bridgend include the Bridgend Transport Interchange costing £2.8m which will enable buses to pick up and drop off at Bridgend railway station using a mini bus station to be built on land alongside.

This is part of a £3.1m pack-

age approved by Deputy First Minister Ieuan Wyn Jones.

He has also given the green light to schemes to create a park and ride facility at Pencoed railway station and increase the number of spaces available at Sarn.

In all, an extra 83 car parking spaces will be created at the two sites in an attempt to encourage commuters to take the train instead of their cars.

These schemes are being carried out by BCBC. Work on the park and ride schemes will start in December with completion by May. The interchange is also due to be created during the current financial year.

The new interchange will link the railway station with Brackla Street. A road will be built running alongside the telephone exchange, but this will be

restricted to buses, mini buses, taxis and pedestrians.

It is hoped that buses from Bridgend bus station will be diverted via the new interchange so that passengers can easily switch between rail and bus transport.

The development has been welcomed by Coun Mel Nott, leader of BCBC, and Coun Jeff James of the Vale, who chairs SEWTA.

Longer term, there are plans to double the number of trains on the Maesteg line by creating a passing loop on the single line stretch which runs from Bridgend to Maesteg. This will be in a half hourly service.

*These improvements are being delivered by the Welsh Assembly Government directly, as part of the Wales Rail Forward Programme.*



ABOVE: Daniel, photographed a couple of years ago.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D635.

- £2,000: 821880.
- The rollover, which now stands at £1,500, was not won this week.

- £10: 265421,740292, 386015, 210460, 703439, 218262, 593309, 418377, 687039, 103288, 609643, 458453, 823402, 487799, 166170, 156681, 872339, 969729, 932176, 437503.

- £5: 395580, 387737, 155630, 500894, 630064, 487552, 231696, 436584, 514401, 644496, 536452, 734763, 103689, 220009, 746846, 240850, 660014, 402958, 582563, 773264, 327014,

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

## 'The Independents will be squeezed out' – claim

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The commission intends to carve it up, with Coytahen being linked to Cefn Cribwr to create a new ward.

Aberkenfig itself would then be merged with Pen-y-Fai and Cefn Glas to create a new two-member ward. At the moment, there are three councillors for the area.

Coun Winter condemned all the proposals.

"There is absolutely no common interest at all between Coytahen and Cefn Cribwr.

There are no historic links; the communities are divided by Baiden Mountain and in order to travel between the two villages, you have to go through other council wards. It is ludicrous."

He said that the villages of Aberkenfig and Pen-y-Fai would also lose their own councillors.

But Coun Winter said he was concerned because the proposals generally would see independent councillors squeezed out.

"By merging wards in Maesteg, Bridgend and Porthcawl plus other areas like Garw, Pencoed and Sarn, the commission is making it easier for the big parties.

"They have the resources and the manpower to canvass large areas.

"Independents like myself with just a few helpers will have no chance of getting around these big wards. It could spell the end of the road for them."

Coun Winter said he favoured single-member wards which small parties and independents could get around.

Bridgend has 14 independent councillors – spread between the Annibynwyr group led by Jeff Tildesley; the Democratic Independents led by Bob Burns and the two-strong group of Mel Winter and Peter Evans.

Under these proposals, many of the seats held by independent councillors will disappear.

**These include:**

- Coity, held by an Annibynwyr, which will merge with Litchard, also held by the

Annibynwyr, and Pendre, held by Labour.

- Caerau-Nantyffylon Ward which is to merge with Maesteg East, currently has two Annibynwyr independents and one Labour. The east ward has two Labour. One of these seats will go as the new ward will return four members instead of the present five.

- Pen-y-Fai, held by an Annibynwyr

- Aberkenfig held by an independent

- Cochurch held by an independent.

Although the overall number of councillors is to drop from 54 to 51, this masks the fact that some areas like Porthcawl and Bryntirion are to get extra councillors.

*After hearing objections and representations, which have to be submitted by November 5, the commission will publish final proposals which will then have to be ratified by the Welsh Assembly Government.*

## 'Flying Vet' claims South Wales Police were out to get him

### Report by AJ SICLUNA

withholding of disclosure information, the court was told.

"I have served everything I have got to the other side." He added: "I

Mr Williams said that whenever Mr Kirk had been in court in the past and to the Court of Appeal."

He left the court room after 30 minutes.

it has always been considered," he said.

The judge said that the preparation of his judgement would take some time to assemble because there was such a large amount of material involved.

*Earlier in the hearing, it was estimated that if evidence had been called it would have lasted up to 10 weeks with costs of £800,000.*

## Suspended sentence for Bridgend mother of three who threw knife at her partner

DURING a domestic dispute a mother of three threw a kitchen knife at her partner.

**Report by AJ SICLUNA**

had been in a relationship for 10 years, but it had been a troubled one and he had been bullying towards her.

On July 10, she went to a prize-giving at a football club and had a drink.

She returned home at 6pm to find Mr Mansel-Jones in a temper.

"They had an argument, which escalated and he hit her across the head.

"She then picked up a kitchen knife and threw it at him, striking his chest. There was a one and a half cm gash which punctured a lung..

"When Mr Mansel Jones collapsed on the sofa, she realised how serious the matter was and dialled 999."

Mr Trigg said that the victim and defendant

tim made a full recovery and he had also given the police a statement saying he didn't want to give evidence against her.

Thomas' counsel Nicholas Gareth Jones said: "They are no longer together. At the time, both had been drinking and he became argumentative and accused her falsely of having an affair.

"He jabbed her face and pushed her against a window and then hit her to the head, at which point she threw the knife.

"She regrets very much having acted in the way she did, but there was a great deal of provocation and there was not a deliberate stab.

"It was not the first time she had been subject to abuse from him.

"She acted because she felt she had to defend herself. It was isolated and not pre-meditated."

# 'Conquer addiction or end up in prison' – a student is told after stealing a satnav from a car

Crown Court report by AJ SICLUNA

A student who was spotted stealing from a parked vehicle wept constantly throughout her hearing at Cardiff Crown Court.

Ceri Woodward (21) of Bridgend admitted a charge of theft and was sentenced to a community order involving six months' supervision plus a drugs intervention programme.

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said a car was left unlocked in Nantyffynnon Road, Bridgend. Woodward and a friend were spotted in the vehicle looking for something to steal and it emerged that a satnav unit had been taken. Woodward was arrested and admitted what she had done.

Woodward, said Mr Trigg, had convictions for possessing drugs and for burglarising flats occupied by students at Southampton University where at the time she had been studying.

Her counsel Peter Harding

Roberts said: "This is a very sad case. She had been studying at university but because of what she did, she was sent down."

"She had been abusing heroin, alcohol and valium but she hoped to continue her studies in Bridgend. She has a loving and intelligent mother."

"The person with her in the car was her boyfriend but fortunately he is no longer on the scene."

Said Judge Neil Bidder: "You still have ambitions and it is not too late to realise them. It requires you sticking to the path you are now on."

He said she had the support of her mother who appeared to be "an eminently sensible woman".

He added: "The court hopes you can conquer this addiction. You must realise you are teetering on the brink of a custodial sentence."

## COMMUNITY RALLIES TO HELP BRAVE TOBIAS (6)

Youngster paralysed in road collision receives laptop gift



A six-year-old schoolboy, Hospital of Wales in the next couple of weeks."

The fundraising for Tobias has been organised by Tracey Smith of Steve Nicholls Estate Agents. Her son Joshua was a friend of Tobias at Ysgol Gwaun y Nant, until Tobias moved to west Wales.

Tracey explained: "Fiona was going to visit her daughter in Cambridge when she was involved in a collision at a junction. Tobias was resuscitated at the roadside before help arrived.

"He has been at Addenbrooke's Hospital for about eight or nine weeks now.

"He is paralysed from the neck down. Fiona hopes that when the swelling on the back of his neck goes down he may recover more movement, although the doctors have prepared the family for the worst."

"The response from Barry people has been incredible – children at the school had a non-uniform day raising more than £400, parents donated another £300, people in Elizabeth Avenue, who didn't even know Tobias personally,

gave £30, and others continue to give."

"I was in Fountains café on Holton Road and a man heard me talking about what had happened and said: 'I hope you don't mind, but I overheard what you were saying and want to give £10'."

"MJM computers on High Street fitted the software and a man called Brian arranged delivery to Addenbrooke's."

"It will enable Tobias to keep in touch with his school friends via Skype."

"This is not the end of the fundraising, though, we will continue. I've also written to the charity Dreams Come True to see if they can help Tobias's dream to come true."

"On Monday of this week, donations were still coming in from generous people."

If anyone would like to make a donation, they can speak to Tracey on 01446 735175, or call at Steve Nicholls Estate Agents, 15 High Street, Barry,

by TIM CHAPMAN

**LEFT:**  
Mum Fiona hands over the prized laptop gift to an overjoyed Tobias in a Cambridge hospital, to help him keep in touch with his friends back home in Wales.

TEACHING and administration staff of Archbishop McGrath Catholic School in Brackla, Bridgend, recently visited the site of their new school building to learn more about the state-of-the-art facilities that will be

available to their students in the autumn of 2011.

A school spokesman said that the visit, arranged by contractor Leadbitter Group, is part of a consultation programme set up to ensure the new school

meets the needs of staff and students, as well as engage them in the building process.

"A landmark building designed as a centrepiece of the community, the three-storey school includes a large atrium

entrance with feature stairs and seating to provide additional capacity for the main hall, as well as sports facilities for joint use by the school and local community.

"The changing facilities serving the sports areas are built

on a 2.5 degree slope to follow the profile of the land, and the overall design is intended to achieve a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating," she explained.



Staff get a glimpse of the future as new Archbishop McGrath school takes shape.

## KPC YOUTH PRESENTATION EVENING

Youth organisation looks back on... 'what we did on our holidays'

PICTURES by MALCOLM NUGENT

DURING the six weeks of school holidays, KPC ran a number of free activities during the day and evening for 13 to 17-year-olds.

Members and non-members were able to take part and included a free mini bus service to the centre on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from Cefn Cribwr and Cornelly.

The activities included a trip to Oakwood, 'mudiest assault course,' ice skating, graffiti street workshops, an activity weekend at Dolgellau and numerous others, with the aim of engaging with young people during the school holidays to keep them usefully active and entertained.

An incentive scheme was run with more than 30 youths taking part and competing for 'points' to win a free place at Oakwood. They could do community work, workshops, and OCNs. OCNs are accredited qualifications that benefit young people.

KPC's project manager, Alison Mawby, said: "Many activities were aimed at developing young people and providing them with new skills. Popular activities included surfing, boxing, assault course, canoeing, gorge walking and sponsored walks, including one with the police to Nash Point, and also in Bryngarw Park."

"Subjects dealt with during the events were healthy living, alcohol education, drugs, bullying, independent living and community work."

"The staff all agreed that the whole six weeks had been a 'bonkers' time, but hugely successful."

Friday, September 17, was awards night where certificates were presented and congratulations given. It was well attended by both parents, 'helpers', staff and of course the young members themselves.

Most improved TT – Logan Hickey.  
TT tournament winner – Ryan Jones.  
Best pool player – Cole Lewis.  
Football player of the summer – Dan Jones.  
Dance – Harriet James, Taylor Dennis, Lewis Blyth.  
Best attendance – Macauley Beaton, Dai



Morris, Jack Cane,  
Positive attitude – Meg Raikes, Joe Morgan, Tom Jeffries, Tyla Fuller, Kelsie Dewar, Jamie Hooper, Joe James, Corei Morelli.

Most helpful – Jay Tome, Paige Woodham, Ryan Jones, Macauley Beaton.

Most improved attitude/behaviour – Macauley Beaton.

Funnest young people – Dan Jones, Paige Woodham.

Stinker of the summer – Cole Lewis.

Best behaved – Ryan Jones.



ABOVE:  
Six of the best collect their awards.

# THE SEA VIEW LADS ANGLING CLUB ENJOYS 10th ANNUAL COMPETITION - AND PRIZES!

AS reported last week, the Sea View Lads Angling Club was fortunate enough to have fine weather for its annual competition, the 10th in its history!

The great thing is that every youngster who took part received a prize.



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## Late, late tries sink Barry's Sea View RFC

SATURDAY saw a return to league action for Sea View RFC.

After last week's cancelled games due to no opposition, this week's second team game was cancelled due to no referee. Any ex-players wanting to take up the whistle should see our website for details.

The first team travelled to Whitchurch and went behind to an early penalty, before taking the lead through a Ben Cotter try close to the end of the half.

In the second half, the View lineout benefited from the return of Chris Hann, and jumpers Joe Matum and Rhys McAloon were able to secure plenty of clean ball.

The front row had a tough game but props Griffiths and Bowditch coped admirably. Midway through the half both were replaced by Willo Williams and Trev

This Saturday sees a home league fixture for the Seconds against Cowbridge. (Kick-off 2.30pm). Everybody welcome!

### TELL US YOUR NEWS!

- WE welcome your news, views and sports items. Please send them to the Editorial Department, The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL, or email [ggem@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:ggem@internet-today.co.uk)

## Club's 'amazing' £1,135 for Macmillan charity

PETER Davis, chairman of the Vale branch of Macmillan Cancer Support, was "thrilled" to visit the Railwaymen's Club in Barry recently where he met Lorraine Whitlock, manager of the club.

Lorraine has kept collecting tins for Macmillan since August 2007 and to date has raised the amazing amount of £1,135.60.

Lorraine said that Macmillan were a terrific charity and that she was really pleased with the amount raised so far.

Peter Davis said: "I would like to say a huge thank you to Lorraine and all the staff and customers of the Railwaymen's Club in



Barry. To raise this amount of money in collecting boxes is truly magnificent.

"Macmillan Cancer Support provides practical, medical, emotional and financial support to local people and their families affected by cancer. At the present time, 108,000 people are living with cancer in Wales and with the help of the Railwaymen's Club, Macmillan will be able to make a difference between a good day and a bad day for more of those people".

### Fibromyalgia Support

THE Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group's monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, October 12.

Please contact group leader Barbara Clissett on 0845 345 5813 for further details. Calls are charged at standard rate

### HISTORY TALK

ON Tuesday, October 12 at 6.45pm, Dinas Powys Local History Society will be holding its AGM, followed at 7.30pm by Mr Ron Powell, who will give a talk and show slides on the 'Charge of the Light Brigade' in the Kynance Church Hall, Dinas Powys.

An administrative fee of £1.50 will be charged at the door for non-members and £1 for members, to cover running expenses. All welcome.

For further information, contact Jan Gray on 01446 701273.



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## Court staff say farewell

FRIDAY, September 10 was a sad day for the Vale Magistrates @ Court at Barry when five long serving administrative left for pastures new, following reorganisation of the administrative staff in the Cardiff and Barry areas of the Court Service.

The team posed for a final picture and were given a reception and a farewell gifts by the very grateful Vale magistrates who had benefited from the team's efforts.

Picture by JEFF BAKER



## WHO WILL GIVE CASPAR A HOME?

*The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Tel 01656 725219)*

### THIS WEEK:

Casper is an eight-year-old Shih Tzu.

He needs an experienced owner and an adult-only home. He came into the kennels in a very poor condition with his coat extremely matted.

A spokeswoman explained: "He is very sensitive to being handled, and takes his time to get to know you. He can appear aloof at first, but once he trusts you he is a cheeky and lovable little dog."

"He has come on a lot since being at the centre. His new owners will need to be prepared to give him time to settle into his new home and work with his handling issues."

Type of home needed:  
He needs an experi-



enced owner and he's not suitable with children. He gets on well with other dogs and can live with a female dog. Anyone interested in adopting Casper will need to make a few visits to the centre to allow him time to get to know and trust them.

## COMMUNITY NEWS ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

THE Ladies Thursday Club met at the school on September 23 when speaker Helen told of the history of Wick chapel, situated alongside The Green at Wick.

THE Harvest Concert took place on September 24 at St Bridget's Church with the Bridgend Male Voice Choir, the church was ideally suited for such an occasion.

THE Mothers' Union monthly corporate communion on September 24 was followed by a visit to the primary school to take part in the Macmillan Greatest Coffee Morning.

OGMORE Retired Residents Association meet at the Watermill today (Thursday) for the annual auction at 2pm.

THE new recycling leaflets have been distributed and it is pleasing to note that the green bag garden waste collection will go on until November 26. Green bags can be obtained from the library at Llantwit Major at £1 each.

A PACT meeting will be held at the church hall on Wednesday, October 6 at 6pm. Go along and make your observations and complaints. The local police are in attendance.

HARVEST Festival service at St Bridget's on September 26 was followed by the harvest parish lunch at the church hall with a wonderful array of food to offer.

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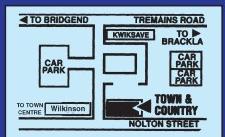
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# LLANDOW'S DAY OF LOTUS RACING BRINGS BACK OLD MEMORIES OF A LONG-GONE ERA

LLANDOW Race Circuit recently staged a day of motor racing for devotees of the Lotus seven sports car.

The 'vintage' racing cars, all lovingly maintained by enthusiasts, brought back memories of Fangio and Mike Hawthorne, as the golden days of motor racing returned to the Vale.

## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

e-mail [ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk)  
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### HIGH STREET, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Large detached house set in mature, private and enclosed gardens. Three reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, boiler room, and sun room, ground floor shower room. To the first floor two large double bedrooms, one large single bedroom and family bathroom. Off road parking. Within walking distance of town centre and train station.  
Unfurnished £995 pcm



### COLHUGH ST, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Traditional stone cottage in old part of town. Accommodation includes hall, sitting room, dining room, modern kitchen and utility area. Two double bedrooms and bathroom. Landscaped garden with terrace. Off road parking. Garage or large store room available.  
Fully furnished £750 pcm



### BOVERTON RD, LLANTWIT MAJOR

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### MONMOUTH WAY, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Four bedroom link detached house. Accommodation includes entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, four bedrooms and bathroom. Gardens to front and rear. Garage. Off road parking  
Unfurnished £795 pcm



### CWRTY CADNO, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Semi detached house on popular estate. Accommodation includes lounge, kitchen/diner, one double bedroom and one single bedroom, bathroom. Enclosed rear garden. Garage and off road parking  
Unfurnished £525 pcm



### MAES ILLTUDS, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Mid link house on popular estate. Accommodation includes: kitchen/diner, sitting room, two double bedrooms and bathroom. Enclosed rear garden. Off road parking.  
Unfurnished £500 pcm



### CHURCH MEADOW, BOVERTON

Detached house with driveway and garage. Accommodation includes: hallway, lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. Enclosed rear garden.  
Unfurnished £675 pcm



### CHURCH MEADOW, BOVERTON

Mid link house. Accommodation includes: entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, one double bedroom and one single bedroom, bathroom. Enclosed low maintenance rear garden. Off road parking.  
Unfurnished £495 pcm



### ASH LANE, ST ATHAN

Semi detached house. Accommodation includes: entrance hall, newly fitted kitchen/dining room, lounge, two double bedrooms, one single bedroom and bathroom. Large enclosed rear garden with rural outlook. Allocated parking.  
Unfurnished £600 pcm



### PINEWOOD SQUARE, ST ATHAN

Mid link house overlooking green. Accommodation includes: lounge, kitchen/diner, two bedrooms and bathroom. Enclosed rear yard/garden. Two houses available.  
Unfurnished £450 pcm



### FFERM Y GRAIG, ST ATHAN VILLAGE

Converted barn in cul de sac of similar properties. Accommodation includes: entrance hall, kitchen, lounge/diner, two double bedrooms and bathroom. Enclosed, paved front garden. Off road parking.  
Unfurnished £500 pcm



# 'Time to grab our share of Olympic spin-off business'

**- says Vale MP Alun Cairns**

THE Vale's MP has urged local companies to get their slice of the cake when Olympic contracts are dished out.

A total of £700 million worth of goods and services is up for grabs with the opportunities being publicised at an online web portal by the London organising committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG).

Mr Cairns, who had been in touch with the Department of Culture, Media & Sport to find out which companies based in the Vale had been contracted to participate in the operation of the London 2012 Olympics, explained: "LOCOG has advised me that no major contracts have yet been awarded in this procurement, but there is significant interest across the nations and regions in those tenders that have been placed on the online web portal 'CompeteFor'."

"CompeteFor makes these opportunities accessible to companies in all parts of the UK, including Wales.

"I'm keen to urge businesses based within the Vale to apply for these contracts, as there's no reason why our excellent locally based service and product providers cannot com-

pete effectively on a UK wide platform."

Mr Cairns said if local companies secured business it would boost local employment prospects.

"The depth and breadth of businesses based in the Vale should ensure that we can be successful in securing contracts for this high profile global event, promoting a positive image for the area and providing guaranteed work for those in the Vale."

Paul Haley, the director of strategic operations with south Wales based BHBI Consultancy, an internal audit training company in Cardiff with links to many local firms, said there could be the chance of gaining contracts as long as the process wasn't too onerous for small and medium sized businesses.

He explained: "It does present opportunities for organisations so long as the tender processes are not overly bureaucratic and thus unduly prohibitive against small businesses.

"Probably SMEs will need to look to subcontract in order to be involved."

*Company directors who want to know about the opportunities available should visit [www.competefor.com](http://www.competefor.com).*

## Friends' fayre at Dinas Powys

FRIENDS of Bryneithin are holding a table top sale/Christmas fayre on Saturday October 2, at 11am-2pm in Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys.

To book a table (£5), telephone Mrs Sylvia Bowen on 01446 407860. All money raised will go to Bryneithin Residents Fund. Helpers also sought on the day.

## Spiritualist session

CADONTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, is holding a 'Body, Mind and Spirit' day on October 2, from 10am-4pm.

For more details, contact Marjorie 01446 746670 or Julie 07971 216846.

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If you would like to get in touch with David about any issue or problem, please contact him at:

The National Assembly for Wales,  
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Tel: 029 20898732

e-mail: [david.melding@wales.gov.uk](mailto:david.melding@wales.gov.uk)  
website: [www.davidmelding.com](http://www.davidmelding.com)



Welsh  
Conservatives

# 'Trusted' financial advisor defrauded his clients out of thousands of pounds

by AJ SICLUNA

A financial advisor with a leading insurance company defrauded some of his clients out of thousands of pounds, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Father of two, Matthew Holland (39) of Penarth, a man with no previous convictions, was regarded as a friend and was trusted by his clients, said prosecutor David Thomas.

Judge Neil Bidder sentenced him to 12 months imprisonment suspended for two years, made him subject to a supervision order for two years, and directed he

carry out 300 hours unpaid work, after he pleaded guilty to four charges of fraud.

Said the judge: "You defrauded people who trusted you. They not only trusted you, they regarded you as a friend and this was a very serious breach of trust on them and your employers."

"The offences were committed, I am sure, when your work got on top of you. You are not very adept at paperwork and you ran up debts which you didn't manage very well. Your ability to service your debts became less and less."

He said the offences were committed as a result of panic when he

Holland was said by Betty Craig gave his counsel David Purnell to have "committed to a spectacular fall from grace".

He produced 19 character references.

"He has been very good at his work and was good at selling, but he lived beyond himself and spent more than he received."

Mr Purnell said that at one point he had considered ending his life.

"He has lost everything and will never work again in a capacity where he handles money. He is now a taxi driver."

He said the family house would have to be sold and the equity used to repay the loan.

## Lucky four GEM winners!



FOUR lucky winners have each received £50 gift vouchers in the recent Johnsons the Goldsmiths' competition, held in conjunction with The Glamorgan GEM. They were: AG Simmonds, Barry; Mrs R Brown, St Hilary; Mrs Doris Allen, Ystradgwen and Janet Jones, Cowbridge. Cowbridge proprietor, Yvonne Johnson, is pictured (above) handing over her prize to AG Simmonds.

## Members hear of exotic shell hobby

MERTHYR MAWR WI

MERTHYR MAWR WI is celebrating its 80th birthday this year, and to mark the occasion held a dinner recently when Pam Dinham, federation chairman and June Humphrey, federation secretary attended.

Earlier this year members enjoyed a day out at Fonmon Castle; after a talk in the library and superb tea, they were able to wander around the gardens. Following the business meeting, president Margaret Batten welcomed the speaker for the evening, Jan Gosney, who spoke about her hobby of collecting seashells.

It began when she was a child collecting shells, on holiday on the east coast of England, and has grown into a large and exotic collection.

Jan brought some of her very interesting collection with her. She talked about the formation and life of the sea creatures that inhabit the shells and about some of the uses shell are put to.

Jewellery is one prime uses of shells and she spoke about oyster shells and how pearls are formed and how cameo shells are fashioned into lovely pieces of jewellery.

Shells are also used for decorating ornamental plates and boxes. Alice Coulter gave the thanks.

The next meeting will be the AGM at Ewenny Community Hall on Wednesday, October 1.

FIONA CATER

## New head boy and girl

CONGRATULATIONS to Jacob Ellis and Megan Morris (centre) on being chosen as head boy and head girl for this academic year, as Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg Welsh medium comprehensive school celebrates its tenth anniversary. They will be assisted by Ieuan Donovan and Catrin Williams.



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# LIFEGUARDS ENJOY GREAT TIME AT SURF LIFESAVING CHAMPIONSHIPS



## AUGUST was a very busy time for Rhoose Lifeguards.

The Surf Lifesaving Great British championships, sponsored by South West Water, took place at Gyllyngvase Beach in Falmouth.

The Masters kicked off the week with two days of competition on August 7 and 8, gaining fifth place, followed by the youth/senior competition on August 10 and 11, gaining third place in their section, and the Nippers ended the competition on August 13 and 14, gaining 11th place.

Despite only having small teams and huge competition from the very large Devon and Cornish clubs, every Rhoose member performed extremely well and should be very proud they represented their club and country, which was only one of six very small Welsh clubs that entered the GB championships.

**Medal winners were:** Masters – Dave Cooper (55+); Gold medals in Board Race, Oceanman; Silver medals in Surf Race, Surf Ski Race; Steve Edgerton (50-54); Bronze medal in Beach Flags; Carol Miller (45-49); Bronze medal in IK run; Janine Cordy (45-49); Gold medal in 120+ Taplin Relay, Bronze medal in 120+ Ski Relay; Karen O'Donaghue-Harris (40-44); Gold medals in Board Race, Surf Ski Race, 120+ Taplin Relay, 120+ Board Relay, Bronze medal in 120+ Ski Relay, Silver medals in 30-39 Board Rescue, 30-39 Double Ski; Sarah Bryant (40-44); Gold medal in 120+ Board Relay, Bronze medal in Beach Sprint; Liz Wong (35-39); Gold medals in Surf Race, Board Race, Surf Ski Race, Oceanwoman; 120+ Taplin Relay, 120+ Board Relay, Bronze medals in IK run, 120+ Ski Relay, Silver medals in 30-39 Board Rescue, 30-39 Double Ski.

Youth/Senior – Rhys Perry (19); Gold medal in Beach Flags; Robbie Thompson (19); Bronze medal in Beach Flags; Lana Evans (19); Gold medal in Surf Race, Bronze medal in Board Race; Lucy Curtis (19); Silver medal in Ski Race, Bronze medal in Beach Flags; Eloise Neighbour (19); Bronze medal in Oceanwoman; Teg Young (16); Bronze medal in Ski Race; Emma Braggins (15); Bronze medal in Ski Race; Keiran Knowles (14); Silver medal in Board Race, Bronze medals in Ski Race, Oceanman; Sam Thompson (14); Gold medal in Beach Sprint; Caitlin Young (14); Bronze medal in Ski Race; Lauren Williamson (13); Gold medals in Surf Race, Board Race, Silver medals in Oceangirl, Beach Sprint.

Gold team medals: Women (19) Taplin Relay, Women (19) Surf Relay, Women (19) Tube Rescue, Women (19) Double Ski, Mixed (14) Beach Relay.

Silver team medals: Men (19) Taplin Relay, Women (19) Board Relay, Men (19) Surf Relay, Women (19) Board Rescue, Men (19) Tube Rescue, Men (19) Double Ski, Women (16) Double Ski, Women (14) Tube Rescue.

Bronze team medals: Men (19) Board Relay, Mixed (19) Double Ski, Men (16) Board Relay.

Nippers – Erin Hayes (13); Gold medals in Beach Flags, IK Run; Lauren Williamson (13); Gold medal in Surf Race; Kelsea Petersen (12); Bronze medal in Beach Sprint; Rhya Gardner (11); Bronze medal in Board Race; Jessica Wadey (10); Gold medals in Run Wade Run, Beach Sprint, Beach Flags, Silver medal in IK Run; Brooke Peterson (8); Gold medal in Beach Flags.

Gold team medals: Girls 12-13 Beach Relay.

Bronze team medals: Girls 13 Board Rescue.

The competition was part of the Henri Lloyd Falmouth Week, which also included fireworks, yacht races, live music, a fantastic display by the Red Arrows and the IK Trident Swim. The Trident Swim is organised by the Falmouth Fire Brigade and is a fundraiser for three charities – Firefighters Charity, SLSAGB and Cancer Research. A total of 131 swimmers took to the water. Among them were Rhoose Lifeguard members Liz Wong, Gareth Harris, Kathryn Gardner, Rowan Miller and Tayla Edgerton (who was the youngest competitor in the swim at 12 years old).

Well done to all five of you for finishing in very respectable positions.

Special thanks to all the Rhoose members who took part in the competition, to the families, friends and sponsors for their support and to SLSAGB for organising the event.

## American visitors hear Bridgend Male Choir in full voice

AFTER helping cancer charities at the local St Crallo's Church, Coychurch, the Bridgend Male Choir moved on to another local church last weekend, to perform as part of its harvest festival.

As with St Crallo's, the choir was delighted to perform at St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major this time.

This 900-year-old building also enjoys a wonderful acoustic and an appreciative congregation made the choir very welcome.

Soloists Leon Evans, Graham Collins and Paul Carter and narrator, Alun Roberts Jones drew special applause, as did the choir's organist, Scott Williams for his solo pieces and whose ears must have been ringing with the applause!

With musical director John Jenkins at the helm, and the skilled fingers of piano accompanist, Laura Smith, the concert was always going to be a success and this was certainly the case.

His sense of humour and dedicated research makes the choir's compere, Gareth Davies a delight for audiences and choristers alike. He was pleased to welcome Ryder Cup visitors from the USA states of Virginia and Maine and commented on the many American themes in the music programme, plus the Elvis Festival at Porthcawl.

Many of the congregation joined the choristers for further musical enjoyment at the Fox and Hounds where the hospitality was very much appreciated.

Bridgend Male Choir continues with its 50th birthday celebrations next weekend with a Saturday, October 2, anniversary concert at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

The choir's guests are Welsh entertainer, Max Boyce; singer, Eve Sherratt and comedian, Colin Price. A small number of tickets are still available from the box office on 01656 815995.

EE

## Lifeboat is called to fishing boat

PORTHCAWL's lifeboat was launched last week to answer a distress call from a fishing boat off Sker Point.

The RNLI was called out by Swansea Coastguard which had received the call from the boat on Saturday as one of the fishermen on board was suffering with chest pains.

The tide was out and the boat was unable to get into Porthcawl harbour.

A doctor happened to be fishing nearby in another boat and he heard the distress call and offered his assistance. He was transferred to the boat that made the call and was able to assess the condition of the patient.

When the lifeboat arrived shortly afterwards, they were able to supply oxygen, aspirin and other medication to the patient, which was administered by the doctor.

It was decided that the patient needed to be treated in hospital and a rescue helicopter was scrambled. The doctor and patient were transferred to the lifeboat to make it easier for the patient to be winched aboard the helicopter and he was then taken to Morriston Hospital.

Joseph Missen Helm of Porthcawl Lifeboat Station said that the shout had involved many different organisations and individuals who had all worked together to assist the fisherman.



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# FAIRYTALE EXPERIENCE FOR THE CHILDREN WITH CANCER

A GROUP of little girls who have been undergoing treatment for cancer were given a 'royal' experience when they attended a very special Princess Pamper party accompanied by Miss Wales 2010, Courtney Hamilton and Mister Wales 2010, Andrew Western.

Earlier this month, the Hair Business in Cowbridge played host to the little girls who enjoyed having their nails painted, playing party games, getting their hair/wigs styled by hairdressers and tucking into takeaway pizza and cup cakes.

The president and founder of The Joshua Pamper party concept is an absolutely wonderful idea as, since being associated with the Miss Wales and Mister Wales competition, we have realised that little girls are fascinated by the girls and boys who take part in the Miss Wales/Mister Wales final and really aspire to be like them.

"I know that by giving the girls the opportunity to meet Courtney and Andrew in person and be treated to a spot of pampering, it will really provide them with a special experience that money just can't buy."

Leighanne Phillips, Owner of The Hair Business said: "We love being associated with the Miss Wales competition year in year out, so we were delighted to be able to welcome the little girls to the salon and host such a special party for them."

Miss Wales 2010, Courtney Hamilton said: "Part of the role of being Miss Wales is to help The Joshua Foundation provide unforgettable experiences for children battling cancer, so I am honoured to be involved."



## Howell's School pupils learn to enjoy learning

A SPOKESWOMAN said that Howell's School, Llandaff, was "delighted" to record, once again, excellent public examination results both at GCSE and A-Level.

At GCSE, 32 of the 69 girls gained A\* or A in every subject.

Compared with a national average of 8 per cent awarded the new A\* grade at A-Level, a remarkable 31 per cent of the grades in the school's co-educational sixth form were A\*, and 84 per cent of all the grades were A\*, A or B and there was a 100 per cent pass rate.

"The results at both levels reflect the tremendous "value added" gained by the students during their time at Howell's, who regularly achieve much better results than forecast in independent assessments when they are in year 7.

"Girls from the nursery onwards are encouraged to enjoy learning from their first step on the educational ladder. On Tuesday mornings from

9.45am-11.15am, both boys and girls are welcome to come and have fun with their parents, grandparents or carers at Stay + Play.

"The school sets great store by developing the aptitudes, interests and skills of its students in a wide variety of areas, not just the academic.

"Along with superb facilities, there are numerous opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities and to develop self-confidence.

"A recent success by a group of students stemmed from a fashion show which they organised for charity last November; the six members of the Pink Ladies group, came second in the UK final of the BAFTA Young Chamber of Commerce Business Skills competition.

*Howell's Sixth Form College Fair, an Open Evening for year 11 students is on Tuesday, October 5 from 4pm-6.30pm. Everyone is welcome.*

# Llantwit Castle to be put on market

ONE of the most historic buildings in Llantwit – being put up for sale.

The Vale cabinet was expected to agree at its meeting yesterday, September 29 to sell Llantwit Castle – also known as Old Place – which is located on Castle Street.

The building is a ruin which dates from the late 16th century and it will be sold by tender. A planning brief has been drawn up with the approval of Cadw which must be complied with by any new owners.

This brief enables the building to be re-used as a single residence.

The buildings on the site are Grade 2 listed and some are also scheduled ancient monuments and the site lies in a conservation area.

The council originally decided in 2006 to sell the building, but Cadw was unhappy at that time and it was withdrawn from sale so that a new survey could be carried out. Cadw said then that this was a "nationally significant monument in public ownership."

Extensive clearance of vegetation has taken place to enable the new survey to take place. This found that while little deterioration has taken place, there is a potential for damage to

Report by JAYNE ISAAC

local stone. The building is roofless. It was acquired by the Vale Council in 1995 because of its dangerous structures but the council has been unable to find the funding to repair them.

In his report to cabinet, Rob Thomas, head of planning and transportation, said that the council had four options.

The first was to do nothing but this has been ruled out because of the risk to trespassers from falling masonry and the possibility of a serious failure of the ruinous walls.

The next two options – which are to either carry out intermediate repairs or turn it into an "accessible ruin" – would also be "prohibitively" expensive for the council and also for Cadw.

The fourth option of disposal subject to a planning brief has been agreed with Cadw.

The cabinet was told that the building will remain a financial liability because of the on-going costs of boundary maintenance and supervision while it remains in the council's ownership.

Old Place consists of the ruins of a late 16th century mansion and these are two to three stores high and made of

## PLAID CALLS FOR 'TRAIN INDICATOR' IN DINAS POWYS

PLAID CYMRU have called for a real-time train indicator at Dinas Powys station in Dinas Powys so that passengers will know the time of the next train and be informed of any delays.

Eastbrook is the only station between Cardiff and Bridgend on the Vale of Glamorgan line without a real-time indicator.

Vale Assembly candidate for Plaid

Cymru, Dr Ian Johnson, joined local Dinas Powys councillors, Coun Margaret Randall, Coun Keith Hutton and Coun Val Hartrey, to speak to Eastbrook commuters and ask them to sign a petition.

Dr Johnson said: "We spoke to more than 100 commuters on their way to work or college on Monday morning, with almost everyone agreeing that this would be helpful to their journey."

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Applications for Tender documents are now invited from interested parties.

Closing date for receipt of completed tenders documents is 12 noon, Friday 22 October 2010.

Contact: Siân Cornwell-Shaw, Estates Section, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU. Tel: 01446 709756

Email: scornwell-shaw@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



# Councillor backs fight by charity to retain its funding

**ATTEMPTS** to totally axe all financial aid to a charity which helps young families will be fought tooth and nail.

That's the promise of Coun Cheryl Green who is backing Homestar in its battle to retain funding given by Bridgend County Borough Council.

The charity, which serves the borough, was told in January that it was to lose all £34,000 funding that it gets from BCBC from last April.

But after contacting all councillors, it was agreed that the reduction in funding would be phased over two financial years with £14,000 going in the current year and the remaining £20,000 from next April.

The organisation works with 70 families which have children aged five and under. Referrals are made by social workers and health visitors.

Homestar works by sending in volunteers to assist with looking after the children, dealing with household problems and other issues. It is also a valuable trainer of people looking to have careers in the caring professions.

Organisers have warned that if the funding is totally cut next April, they will have to stop providing help to 32 families living in the southern part of the borough including Bridgend, Porthcawl and Pencoed.

JAYNE ISAAC

## Burglaries at Caerau: five arrests

**POLICE** reported this week that three men had been arrested following a burglary in the early hours of Saturday, September 25, in the Caerau area of Maesteg.

A spokeswoman said: "During the break-in, four individuals at the Filco store on Hermon Road helped themselves to cigarettes and tobacco, and following intelligence, officers conducted a warrant at an address in Caerau the following day."

"Three men aged 36, 25 and 15 were arrested as a result and stolen items were recovered from the property. They have since been bailed pending further enquiries."

### GARDENING ITEMS

Another warrant had been conducted in the Caerau area in connection with a separate burglary in the Llangynwyd area between September 22-24, when gardening items worth about £2,000 were stolen.

A 31-year-old man was arrested and bailed pending further enquiries and property recovered. A 42-year-old man and a 28-year-old woman were also arrested in connection with a theft. They were charged and remanded in police custody.

Anyone with information about crimes in the area can contact police on 101 or, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

# Fire station rostering plans are scrapped

by JAYNE ISAAC

**CONTROVERSIAL** plans to change the way in which Maesteg fire station was manned have been scrapped by the South Wales Fire Authority.

A meeting of the authority on Monday rejected the self-rostering system which would have seen manning levels at the station drop from 29 firefighters to 12.

It was proposed to introduce the system at four or five of the quietest stations, including Maesteg.

But there was huge opposition from both the Fire Brigades Union, firefighters and the public.

Authority chairman Coun Anthony Ernest of the Vale

Council conceded that during the recent consultations on the cost savings package produced by the authority, almost all the feed-back was focussed on the self rostering proposal with an overwhelming majority of people opposing the system.

He went on: "We have therefore looked at an alternative system proposed to us by the Fire Brigades Union which is more acceptable to their members while generating the financial savings that we need to achieve."

"This alternative crewing method will be adopted in the 2011-2012 Risk Reduction Plan." Chief fire officer Andy Marles

added that there would be no negative impact on the communities served by the authority.

He said: "We will continue to look at innovative ways of crewing our appliances at low cost whilst maintaining a fire class service delivery."

The new flexible rostering which has been agreed will see stations like Maesteg, which have a single crew, dropping in numbers from 28 to 26. Shift patterns will remain unchanged although on occasions, staff may have to work extra shifts.

Under self-rostering, firefighters would have worked up to four 24-hour shifts in a week, living at the station.

# Bridgend to hold concert in aid of the flood victims

**THE people of Bridgend are being urged to turn out in support of Pakistan flood victims by attending a charity concert at Evergreen Hall, Angel Street, Bridgend, on Saturday, October 16 from 7pm.**

**It is being organised by Bridgend Quaker meeting to raise emergency funds.**

**The concert will include performances from musicians from around the Bridgend area.**

**Concert tickets can be purchased on the door; £5 for concessions, £7 per adult or £20 for families.**

**All money raised will be donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC).**

## Council set to rescue the miners eisteddfod

**PORTHCAWL** Town Council is to meet the organiser of the Miners Eisteddfod with a view to providing the funding needed to keep it going.

Roger Price announced earlier this year that it was losing funding from BCBC and from Tower Colliery, which has closed and as a result, the event would have to be scrapped in future.

The old eisteddfod has been scaled down over the years and is now a brass band competition which attracts entrants from south Wales and beyond.

Councillors heard that a contribution of £4,000 was needed to secure its future.

Conservative group leader David Deere has proposed the rescue package and feels that the council should stump up the full amount needed

because of the people that the event brings into the town. There was a row at the town council when it was discussed, with Coun Gerald Davies opposing the grant on the grounds that it would set a precedent and that the council could be asked to bail out other cultural events in the town.

But Coun Deere accused the Liberal Democrats group on the town council of standing in the way of progress and said that they had opposed the provision of the skateboard park.

Lib Dem group leader Coun Norah Clarke demanded that he withdraw that remark, but he refused.

*On a vote, the proposal to help the eisteddfod was voted through by the Conservative and Labour members, with Coun Gerald Davies voting against and the other Liberal Democrats abstaining.*

## Porthcawl news/in brief

**POLICE** have taken to the streets of Porthcawl on two wheels – thanks to the town council. Sgt Mike Davies has written to the council thanking them for providing £1,400 to buy four mountain bikes for the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

He said that officers were already out and about and were attracting a great deal of interest from residents who stop them for a chat. As a result, valuable intelligence about anti-social behaviour and other issues had been gathered.

**FRIENDS** of Shady Reed, who was swept to his death from

Porthcawl pier a year ago, are considering erecting a plaque to his memory. Sisters

Shannon and Sophie Thomas of Suffolk Place have approached the town council for information about how to go about it. They will be receiving information from the council.

**PORTHCAWL** town council has agreed to spend £4,356 providing special sockets on 33 lamp posts in Porthcawl town centre which will be used for the decorative Christmas lighting.

The work will be done by BCBC. There

were problems last year with failing electricity supplies to some of the lights and the council has been told that unless action was taken, the same problems would recur.

A SPECIAL group of interested parties is to be formed to discuss plans to improve Porthcawl harbour. BCBC has secured some money to carry out work there as part of a scheme to develop water-based leisure activities.

Work will include reinstatement of the tidal gate, new pontoons and access arrangements for moorings plus work to the demolished breakwater.

BCBC is forming a stakeholder group to progress the scheme.

**PORTHCAWL** town council has agreed to pay £70 for new clips and fixings so that signs at Newton mark which the Glamorgan Heritage Coast can be put back. They were taken down some time ago but BCBC has no funding to pay for this work.

**A LETTER** supporting the Porthcawl Jazz Festival is to be sent by the Welsh Arts Council seeking funding for a bigger and better event in 2011. The request was made by Coun John Bunker.

A WINTER Wonderland carnival to

coincide with the switching-on of the Christmas lights in Porthcawl is under consideration. The Buckaneers, which organise the summer carnival, are considering such an event and is hoping to work with other groups including the town council, chamber of trade, Lions, Rotary, Civic Trust, Porthcawl Town Council has pledged its support to the event.

**THE possibility of having a DPPO (Designated Public Places Order) in Porthcawl is to be discussed by the town council at a meeting with BCBC deputy leader David Sage.**

**The order would give police extra powers to stop drinking on the streets.**

The targets were:

## LEOs are out to make a difference in community

**A NEW club has been formed by young people at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.**

The Porthcawl LEOS are a group of young people, aged 12-18, sponsored by Porthcawl Lions Club, who have already made donations to Sandville Centre and Help for Heroes, and the Welsh teenage cancer ward at the Heath Hospital, Cardiff.

Last week, Tomos Morgan was sworn in as president of the club along with officers, secretary India Rees and treasurer Ben Squire by LEO advisor Lion L Pearce, and presented with their official charter document which will be on display in the school.

Parents and relatives were in atten-

dance, along with representatives from the school headed by headmaster Mr K Dykes and members of the board of governors.

Also in the audience were Lions from Porthcawl, Ross, Brecon, Calne and Marlborough and the LEOS of Ross-on-Wye, led by district governor Lion Colin Duncan.

**Porthcawl LEOS meet at Friday lunchtime in the school library. They are part of the 5,500 LEO clubs in the world all sponsored by local Lions clubs. If any young person wants to learn more about this group run by young people wishing to serve in community please come to a meeting.**

L PEARCE

## NEWS FROM BRYNTEG SCHOOL

### A decade for action: 10 targets for Wales!

**AFTER** two days of collaboration back in May, Keep Wales Tidy and many schools from south Wales decided that one person could make a difference to the sustainability of our future environment.

**1: An increase of energy efficiency options within all schools.**

**2: Reduction in car use across Wales with schools improvement of cycle routes and public transport.**

**3: To achieve litter Freedom in Wales by raising awareness and introducing penalties.**

**4: Achieve a waste free Wales – school meals should be waste free.**

**5: Uniform waste management across all authorities and decrease packaging.**

**6: Tougher legislation to enforce environmental responsibility.**

**7: Develop Eco Communities focused around schools.**

**8: Make Education for**

**The targets were printed and signed by all students involved.**

**This was then framed and presented to Jane Davidson by Callum Williamson, Amy Butlin (youth mayor for Bridgend) and Jade Bickerstaff.**

**The students represented the geography department and eco team led by Miss Ceri Richmond.**

**Council takes over bandstand**  
**PORTHCAWL** Town Council has decided to take over the running of the bandstand in John Street.

The council is to write to BCBC asking that the management of the structure, which is the focal point for outdoor activities in the town centre, be handed to them.

They would organise events there like the switching-on of the Christmas lights and would also ensure that an electricity supply was available.

BCBC has recently announced that electricity would no longer be provided to the structure.

But the Town Council is adamant that ownership of the cast iron bandstand and its future maintenance remains with the borough council.

**BCBC is to consider the request.**

### Macmillan thanks

**I AM writing to thank everyone who organised, baked for, or attended a Macmillan Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning last Friday.**

**It was a great event, and once again the people of the Vale of Glamorgan got behind us whole-heartedly, helping us raise thousands of pounds to fund our services.**

**I am urging local people who couldn't**

**take part in the event itself, to support our work by spending around £3 to buy a virtual coffee by texting SUGAR to 70123.**

**Texts will cost £3 plus the standard network rate.**

**Those donations will really add up, so we're very hopeful loads of people will buy virtual coffees over the next few days.**

**Sue Pickin, Pencoed (For Macmillan Cancer Support)**

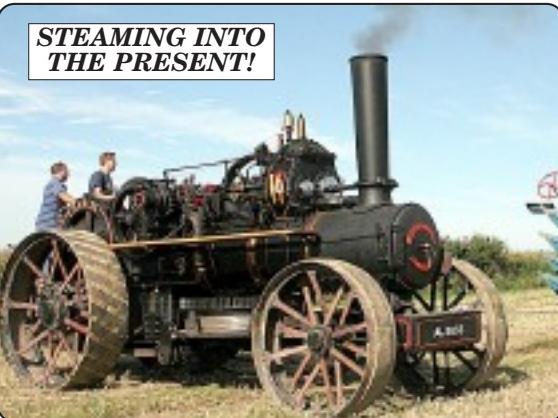
# Ploughing and Hedging at Boerton revives times past



AS you can see from more of Glyn Evans' images of the Riverlea Claas 51st All Wales Ploughing & Hedging Championships held at Boerton Place Farm, the competitions did not just involve modern machinery.

There were more than a few reminders how the land was ploughed a couple of centuries ago!

**PHOTOGRAPHS  
by GLYN EVANS**



'WALK ON'



**LEFT:**  
A pastoral scene –  
the horse drawn  
plough working the  
land.



# Llantwit Major Comprehensive's journey aims to be 'the very best'

THE LLANTWIT MAJOR Comprehensive School celebrated the extraordinary talents of its students this week, as part of the annual awards presentation evening, with guest of honour Jane Hutt AM.

to the life of the school and the wider community.

"They have taken opportunities to develop in the subjects they have studied, and have participated in wider achievement activities including work experience, sports leadership, student councils, field work, theatre visits, visits to the Welsh Assembly, musical events, residential trips and by participating in the widely acclaimed school production *Les Misérables*.

"Last year, the school celebrated the acknowledgment by HMI Estyn that it was making considerable progress since the previous inspection, and highlighted, among many of the strengths of the school, the fact that pupils are valued as individuals.

"The school continues to be heavily involved in sport, and testimony to this is the fact that the PE department has its own awards ceremony to celebrate excellence in sport next week."

Mrs Thomas closed the annual address by saying: "I must emphasise to you all tonight that I find the school in robust good health with many strong features.

"I am convinced that we are building the foundations of a very strong school, and that the reputation of the school is spreading.

"This school is vibrant, ambitious, forward thinking and imaginative in all that it does."

Jane Hutt AM commented on the remarkable achievements of the students and said that they were a credit to the school.



A School for the 21st Century at the Heart of the Community

We believe that

## People are our greatest asset

We are therefore committed to ...

- setting the highest expectations to secure excellence in teaching & learning
- providing a stimulating, challenging, personalised curriculum
- celebrating individuality, success and achievement at all levels
- developing dynamic and meaningful partnerships with our wider community
- securing a safe, collaborative and caring ethos for all



Excellent GCSE Results : 2010 75% A\* - C!

**Mrs D Thomas, Acting Headteacher & Staff  
Information Evening for Prospective  
Pupils & Parents  
Thursday 7 October 2010 - 6 to 8pm**

to meet our dedicated team of staff

- Excellence at GCSE & A Level leading to students securing places at leading top universities
- New state of the art ICT facilities throughout
- Exceptional extra-curricular activities & trips programme
- Outstanding Sports achievement
- Spectacular Drama productions



## Win railway stamps with Royal Mail and The GEM

**CLIMB aboard with Royal Mail, as we take a trip back to the golden age of steam with a celebration of the 'Big Four' railway companies – and the chance to win a set of commemorative stamps to mark the occasion.**

Royal Mail's Great British Railways stamps marks the 50th anniversary of the building of the last UK steam locomotive, British Rail's *Evening Star*.

By the end of the 19th century, numerous pri-

vate railway companies competed fiercely across the British Isles, but by 1923, with profitswaning due to the increasing competition from cars, buses and lorries, over 120 private railway companies were merged into the Big Four.

After the Second World War, the Big Four became British Railways (BR) in 1948.

In March 1960, *Evening Star* brought to an end over 130 years of steam-locomotive building for Britain's main-line railways, leaving Swindon Works in a blaze of publicity in 1960.

For your chance to win a set of the stamps answer the following question:

### Who did the Big Four become?

- A. British Railways
- B. English Railways
- C. Easyjet?

Answers on a postcard marked 'Railways Stamps', to Glamorgan GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL, no later than October 8.

(No correspondence will be entered into and judge's decision is final. Good luck!)

## Barrivale Bridge Club news

### RESULTS from Barrivale:

**September 14** – 1st, Denis Mottram and Jane Brook 71.88 per cent; 2nd, Mike Close and Mick Green 70.00; 3rd, Eileen Hughes and Carol James 62.50.

Denis and Jane also won on handicap.

**September 21** – 1st, Celia Thomas and Jane Brook 66.67 per cent; 2nd, Mike Best and Mike Close 63.25; 3rd, Huw Thomas and Denis Mottram 56.35.

Celia and Jane also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information ring 01446 733425.

## Local authors capture the history of south Wales railway travel

### RAILWAYS OF SOUTH WALES by Adrian Kenny

**WELSH RAILWAYS A NEW PERSPECTIVE by Jeff Morgan and Wayne Eldridge**

by MIKE WILCOCK

and Pontycymmer, which was founded in 2006 also has a mention.

It's obvious to the reader that Adrian has taken many hours to research each and every photograph with cross referencing with further advice from fellow enthusiast in the area.

All the main classes of locomotives are featured with as many liveries as possible and all the freight and passenger companies that have worked in south Wales are also included in the excellent volume.

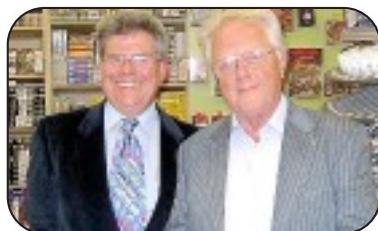
I

find the book an excellent historical document on the south Wales railways in the 21st century. The subjects are photographed in such a way as to take in the whole scene and not just a train in the station as might be expected.

My particular favourites are the industrial scenes, night time at Aberthaw Power Station, oil tankers at Barry, chemical trains at Barry Docks and even trains clearing leaves from the tracks near Cadotown!

This is a book that can be looked at time and time again as each photograph has so much to please the eye that one look is not enough.

Many readers will know Jeff Morgan as the former chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Railway at Barry. Since the change of operators he, along with Wayne Eldridge a fellow teacher, has devoted most of his time to producing their book on "Welsh Railways - A new perspective".



ABOVE:  
Mike Wilcock with author Jeff Morgan (left).

With more than 80 pages of photographs, with many featuring a couple on each page, the book covers a period of 30 years from 1980 to present day, and illustrates the ever-changing scene from Holyhead in the north west to Pembrokeshire in the south west.

It reopened in 1900 and has served the Vale of Glamorgan line right up to the present day. Special trains to the open day at Aberthaw Power Station in 1997 and the daily train to the Ford works at Bridgend, which is rarely seen in daylight hours are another feature.

Both books will give hours of pleasure to rail enthusiasts, photographers and local historians alike. Both are well researched with excellent captions on every page. They will make ideal presents for that special person or even a treat for oneself.

Both are available from the Cowbridge Bookshop or Ian Allan in Cardiff.

## Rail enthusiasts and photgraphers alike will welcome the recent publication of two books on railways in Wales.

All three authors live in south Wales, so their knowledge of the area is extensive.

With more than 120 pages, Adrian Kenny's book, *Railways in South Wales*, is in the larger A4 format and all his images are on the tradition film taken on his Mamiya 645 camera.

Over the 11 years it has taken to compile this book, he has travelled many hundreds of miles in his quest to record all the trains in excellent weather and lighting conditions.

I have known him to travel all the way to west Wales for that special shot, but abort the venture, due to the light not being good enough – but that's the high standard he sets himself.

The first dozen pages give details of all the changes in passenger services, improvements to stations in south Wales, the train operating companies as well as freight operators. There are details on rail infrastructure, signalling, locos and units and finally, the preserved lines in the area.

The Garw Valley Railway, between Tondu

This line saw its last working in 1971.

Golfers at Porthkerry Park are oblivious to a heavy freight train cross-

## Local PC helps to get 'pet ownership' message across

THE experiences of a Vale police officer have been called upon to help to highlight the work of Cardiff University reptile specialist Dr Rhys Jones and the various organisations he works with.

Vale wildlife crime officer, PC Mark Goulding, has been followed by herpetologist Dr Jones and a camera crew as he goes about some of his work, dealing with everything from snakes to terrapins.

PC Goulding said: "A BBC programme last night showed the varied calls I attend as a wildlife crime officer."

"This is just one aspect of policing work across the Vale and south Wales as a whole. As a neighbourhood beat



ABOVE: Dr Rhys Jones and PC Mark Goulding pictured with a Red Tail Boa Constrictor.

manager I hope that my role in the programme highlighted the responsibilities pet owners have with their animals and the offences they could commit if they don't

take these responsibilities seriously.

"As a result of taking part in the TV show, I hope I will be able to engage more effectively with the communities I

serve, in particular young people. Rhys and I both hope we can inspire individuals to take care of the wildlife and environment which surrounds us all."



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LEA Review 2010

"The new Headteacher is establishing a firm foundation for improvement based on high expectations and a positive ethos." Estyn 2010



# Out and About with The GEM

## Affleck's Town is a compelling and hugely impressive place to be...

**F**OR a man whose cinematic career appeared to be over following the debacle that was *Gigli*, Ben Affleck has shown a marked depth of character to resurrect his career in the aftermath.

Serious fare such as *Hollywoodland* and *State of Play* has been the order of the day, while his directorial debut – *Gone, Baby Gone* – was a critical smash. Having enjoyed the feel of the director's chair, Affleck sits back down for *The Town*, in which he also stars.

He plays Doug, the leader of a gang of bank robbers who is aiming for one last heist before his luck runs out, a move that angers his right-hand man James (Jeremy Renner), who doesn't want Doug to walk out on them.

### Toy and Train sale promise 'famous names'

THE three-times-per-year treat for toy and train collectors at Barry Leisure Centre next takes place on Sunday, October 3.

Once again, the entire main hall will be packed with traders from all four corners of the Principality and from far-away locations across the border such as Devon, Cheshire and Nottingham.

Such has been the demand for table space that, time still to go, only two or three stands remain to be let and they will certainly be taken by the day of the show.

Organiser Chris Dyer said: "Since we moved to the excellent Barry Leisure Centre, the event has gone from strength-to-strength, and is very popular with both the public and traders. We are now mounting a show that really does south Wales proud."

"Parking is no problem at weekends as the Civic Centre parking area is also available, and we can accommodate all-comers; the

Things get even more complicated, with Doug falling for Claire (Rebecca Hall), a bank employee who Doug and his gang recently held up. Coupled with Doug and the gang being pursued by a dogged FBI agent named Frawley (Jon Hamm), and suddenly things are getting serious for the men...

Ben Affleck's transition behind the camera was seemingly only done so that he may have some semblance of a career in Hollywood, having done so incredibly well to ruin his acting credibility with roles in the aforementioned *Gigli*, and *Surviving Christmas* (Christmas? I barely survived the first five minutes).

Considering, then, that this may possibly be Affleck's back-up job, it is surprising, though only on his second film, how mature and sharply tuned a director he is, and while *The Town* lacks the emotional

impact of *Gone, Baby Gone*, it is still a hugely impressive follow-up effort from Affleck, and one that pinpoints just how good a director he promises to be.

It is all the more impressive that, having handed the acting duties to brother Casey on his first pass, that Affleck takes on both directing and lead role duty here, a double that he no doubt fell more comfortable handling, and it shows in both his direction and his performance.

If *Gone...* was a fair indicator of Affleck's abilities as a director, then *The Town* shows he is more than at home amping things up when required.

The opening bank raid sequence is more than in thrall to *Point Break*, but by getting the camera among the action, and mixing between handheld camera and 'security camera' footage, he brings a hard-hitting edge that barely lets up over the film's two-hour running time.

While the shoot-outs and car chases are comparable to *Heat*, they lack that film's hard hitting realism, but Affleck shows a strong eye for these sequences, again getting the camera involved and benefiting from the close-ups he

uses. Similarly, his use of the Boston landscape comes to the fore, Affleck showing every dark nook and cranny of the town of Charlestown, and the characters you bump into there.

It's his intimate knowledge of these characters, and the world they inhabit, that makes the film a far more personal one.

The majority of these characters are flawed, but not wholly lacking redemption, and Affleck's camera is never far away from these individuals.

The cast assembled all put in strong turns across the board, with Affleck leading by example in a solid, non-showy, but highly focused turn.

The character of Doug is hardly bursting with originality, but Affleck finds some nice places to take the character on his slightly foreseeable journey, showing a man whose life of crime is as much a product of his society as his own choice.

Capturing the shift in his emotions, as he falls for Claire, knowing the truth would destroy the relationship while having to manage his team of robbers, Affleck's turn is nicely rounded and delivered with style.

Rebecca Hall, as the

bank manager whose relationship with Doug forms the crux of the story, is just as impressive as Affleck, again running the gamut of emotions but delivering a strong performance, in an underwritten role that sits wonderfully well alongside the remainder of the cast.

Meanwhile, Jeremy Renner shows just why he has been so hotly-tipped since last year's *The Hurt Locker*, with a superb performance of quiet spoken menace.

Again, his character is a genre type, the hothead who is unable to extract himself from his situation but Renner shows a slow-burning anger inside the character that makes him dangerous yet strangely rootable, subverting the usual character ticks.

With *Mad Men*'s Jon Hamm similarly impressive as the FBI agent intent on tracking down Doug and his gang, showing there's more to him than the dapper suits and hair pomade of Don Draper, and *Gossip Girl*'s Blake Lively giving an exceptional small turn as drug-addicted mother, there are no weak turns here; and small roles for the likes of Pete Postlethwaite,

Chris Cooper and Titus Welliver (or the 'Man in Black' to *Lost* fans) similarly increase the quality of the turns on show.

If acting and directing wasn't enough, Affleck also took on co-writing duties with Peter Craig and Aaron Stockard, and the script the three of them have delivered (adapted from Chuck Hogan's *Prince of Thieves*) is full of rich characters and bristles with with authenticity.

This, no doubt, helps the superb performances really hit home, but if there are any bumps in the road, it mainly comes through the slightly shmaltzy ending. Affleck and his co-writers getting everything wrapped a little too neatly.

Despite this, given the quality of Affleck's first two outings, there is little doubt in his ability. *The Town* also reminds us of his talent in front of the screen to boot, and the end product is one that is eminently watchable, the performances and direction fittingly soundly around a gripping story.

**VERDICT** – Second directorial outing, second success – Ben Affleck shows real talent behind the camera in

*The Town*, a hard hitting, and gripping, piece of work that is wonderfully acted and directed.

While it may lose its way slightly with a somewhat overly sugary coda, what goes before is superb and shows Affleck to be a man of many talents.

*Recommended.*

### SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

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Email: [andrewRT.davies@wales.gov.uk](mailto:andrewRT.davies@wales.gov.uk)

# COURAGE OF HORSES AND RIDERS IS PUT TO THE TEST AT LLANGEINOR HUNT EVENT

THE stamina and endurance required by both horse and rider in the world of equestrian competition were on show when the Llangeinor Hunt held its latest event in the fields and meadows of Merthyr Mawr.

As you can see from Glyn Evans' images of the day, there were lots of testing fences and obstacles to be overcome before arriving at the finishing gate – along with the odd, perhaps wise, refusal!

## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

e-mail [ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk)  
or [www.ffotoimage.co.uk](http://www.ffotoimage.co.uk)



## NEWS FROM GLAMORGAN FARMERS GOLF SOCIETY

### Geraint lands the Nipper Jewell Trophy at the Vale Golf Resort

THE final of the Nipper Jewell knock-out competition between Bryan Owen and society President Geraint Davies organised by the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, was held recently on the Lakes course at the Vale Golf resort.

A number of members gathered at the first tee to add their support and witness Bryan Owen take an early lead.

Geraint Davies, benefiting from having experienced caddy Griff Morgan at his shoulder, took some time to settle into his game and it was not until the fifth hole that he reduced the deficit.

Owen immediately responded by winning the sixth and seventh par five holes before losing the short par three eighth hole.

The ninth hole was halved, leaving former Whitchurch warrior Bryan

Owen to go into the back nine one up.

A short pep talk from caddy Griff who, at the half way stage, could see his win bonus disappearing, soon had Geraint Davies firing on all cylinders.

Dropping only one shot to par over the next four holes, Davies built up a three-hole lead.

Disaster nearly struck for Davies, however, when playing the 13th hole and only swift action from caddy Griff saved his electric trolley from entering one of the many lakes, which are pleasant features on this well maintained parkland course.

This unfortunate incident seemed to rattle Davies who, assisted by a touch of the dreaded shanks, then proceeded to let Owen reduce the deficit to one hole as they walked onto the 18th tee.

A magnificent fairway splitting drive from Davies could not be matched by Owen, however, who then proceeded to lose his ball when

playing a poor approach shot. Davies confidently placed his approach shot on the green to win for the first time a trophy given to the society in memory of the legendary Keith 'Nipper' Jewell.

The next meeting of the society is today, Thursday, September 30, when members will be competing at the Rhondda Golf Club for the much sought-after Arthur John Cup kindly

sponsored by Mr Dai John.

TMcC



ABOVE: Winner Geraint Davies

LEFT: Runner-up Bryan Owen

### Architrave's hat-trick win

ARCHITRAVE, a three-year-old chestnut gelding trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthine, made every post a winning one when landing the Better Off With Betfair Juvenile Hurdle at Market Rasen last Saturday.

Confidently ridden by Richard Johnson,

Architrave, who was winning for the third time in as many starts, came home an official five lengths ahead of the fast finishing favourite *Two Kisses* and his delighted trainer said: "He has kept improving ever since we had him from Sir Mark Prescott's yard and we are entitled to get excited after that run."

The Triumph Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival meeting in March could now be on the cards for this promising prospect.

# Vale provides a great venue for Welsh Ploughing and Hedging Championships



THE All Wales Ploughing and Hedging Championships at Bovertown Place farm on Saturday, September 18 proved a huge success.

Here is a full set of results:

**TRACTOR PLOUGHING:**

**Class 1 Semi-Digger – World Style:** First, Mr Evan Watkin; second, Mr Clive Nixon; third, Mr Rhodri George.

**Class 2 Semi-Digger – World Style, under 26:** First, Mr Iestyn E James.

**Class 3 Reversible – World Style:** First, Mr D Elfed Jones; second, Mr Colin Bowen; third, Mr Peter Alderslade.

**Class 4 General purpose or Semi-Digger (Classic) 1960-1976:** First, Mr Michael G Holloway; second, Mr Stuart Burden; third, Mr Philip Meek.

**Class 5 Vintage Ploughing – Trailer:** First, Mr Michael Watkins; Second, Mr Ralph Horner; =third, Mr Brian Curtis; =third, Mr Keith Williams.

**Class 6 Vintage Ploughing – Hydraulic:** First, Mr Richard Ingram; second, Mr Afan Jones; =third, Mr John Lewis; =third Mr Anthony Bradley.

**Class 7 High Cut:** First, Mr Vernon Davies; second, Mr Robert Irving; third, Mr Derek Needham.

**Class 8 Ferguson T20 with Standard Ferguson Plough and Top Link:** First, Mr Robert Godfrey; second, Mr Gwilym Pritchard; third, Mr Andrew Drinkwater.

**Class 9 Horse Ploughing – General Purpose:** First, Mr Dafydd Roberts; second, Ms Jane Muntz-Torres.

**Class 10 Horse Ploughing – High Cut:** First, Mr Jim Reynolds; second, Mr Roger Smith; third, Mr John Fletcher.

**Class 11 Best Turnout (Horse Ploughing):** First, Ms Jane Muntz-Torres; second, Mr John Fletcher; third, Mr Dafydd Roberts.

**Class 12 Best Working Team of Horses:** First, Mr Jim Reynolds; second, Ms Jane Muntz-Torres; third, Mr Dafydd Roberts

**HEDGING**

**Class 13 Glamorgan Style Open Championship:** First, Mr James Liley; second, Mr Geraint Jones; third, Mr Morgan Llewellyn.

**Class 14 Any Other Style Open Champion:** First, Mr Richard D Lewis; second, Mr Keith Lawrence; third, Mr Roger Minchin.

**Class 15 Any Style – Under 26:** First, Mr Richard T Gethin; second, Mr Gethin Jones.

**Class 16 Mechanical Hedge Cutting:** First, Mr Peter Thomas; second, Mr Jonathan Davies; third, Mr Phil Robbins.

**WIRE FENCING**

**Class 17 Open Pairs:** First, Mr Meirion Davies and Mr Jonathan Sear; second, Mr John Thomas and Mr Charlie Thomas.

**Champion Welsh Tractor Ploughman:** Mr Evan Watkin.

**Reserve Welsh Champion Ploughman:** Mr Vernon Davies.

**Champion Welsh Reversible Tractor Ploughman:** Mr Elfed Jones.

**Welsh Representatives to World Contest:** Conventional –Mr Evan Watkin; Reversible – Mr D Elfed Jones.

**The Evan Davies Trophy:** Best Young Ploughman under 26 years on January 1,2000 for the best work in any class – Mr Iestyn E James.

**Border Fine Arts:** Champion Horse Ploughman – Wales – Mr Jim Reynolds.

**The Richard and Heather March Trophy:** Best work in semi-digger under 26 class –Mr Iestyn E James.

**The Monmouthshire Perpetual Trophy:** Highest placed Monmouthshire ploughman – Mr Philip Meek.

**CLA Trophy:** Champion Hedger –Mr Richard D Lewis.

**Special prize for the best work done by a Kverneland Plough – Mr Evan Watkin.**

**Special prize for the best work done by a David Brown Tractor and Plough in the Classic Class – Mr Jeremy Jacobs.**

**Special prize for the best work done by a David Brown Tractor and Plough in the Vintage Class – Mr Huw Owen Griffiths.**

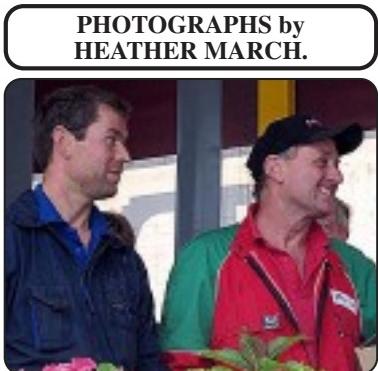


ABOVE:  
An anxious wait for  
the results to be  
announced.



LEFT:  
Dai Jones, the  
president of the  
Royal Welsh Society.

ABOVE:  
The 'best turned out' team belonged to Jane  
Muntz-Torres of Warwickshire, the only  
woman 'ploughman' to compete.



ABOVE: Off to represent Wales in the world  
ploughing championships are Evan Watkin  
and Elfed Jones.



ABOVE:  
A threshing machine in action.

# FUN RIDE A BIG HIT

PHOTOGRAPHS by  
HEATHER MARCH

THE Glamorgan Hunt recently organised a fun ride through farmland and open country (with optional jumps).

The event catered for riders of all ages and horses and ponies of all abilities. In lovely weather, everyone seemed to have a smile.

The hunt is organising an open hunter trial on Sunday, October 3, at Alps Park, Wenvoe. Telephone 07798 903781 or go to [www.glamorgan-hunt.com](http://www.glamorgan-hunt.com) for further information.



PAWS for TH

ABOVE and BELOW:  
These photographs from the dog  
display staged on the day were taken  
by Mr Brian Acott.



# THE ELVIS FESTIVAL AT PORTCAWL AIMS TO GET EVEN BIGGER NEXT YEAR!

**A**FTER a packed weekend when hotels and guest houses in Portcawl were fully booked, Elvis impresario Peter Phillips is planning to expand the event next year – with a tented village as the centrepiece.

This year, Mr Phillips was being followed around by numerous film crews, with BBC Scrum V, a documentary-in-the-making team from Sky TV, a French TV company, a crew following comedian and Elvis fan John Bishop, and several others.

In between interviews, Mr Phillips told The GEM: "In a way, we have hit a ceiling this year, so we are looking at putting together a high-quality tented village that could appeal to the corporate

market. "What we want to avoid, in my opinion, is the mistake that Brecon made with its jazz festival, where it became rather a beer festival."

He said that a festival village had been tried some years ago, but he would only revisit the idea if it could be done with top-of-the-range marques that would help the festival move upmarket. He added that the car park adjoining the Hi-Tide Inn was a likely site for the village.

As in previous years, shows at the Grand Pavilion were all sold out, and the Hi-Tide Inn was also busy with its own programme of Elvis acts.

Numerous local pubs and hotels staged their own events over the weekend, as the landlords took advantage of this late-season boost to the tourism business.

**Photos by MANDY THOMAS**  
(Available for purchase,  
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# FANS TURN OUT IN FORCE TO SEE THEIR FAVOURITES VIE FOR THE KING'S TITLE

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**Ryder Cup captains set for titanic showdown at Celtic Manor**



**ABOVE:**  
*The American Ryder Cup team arrived in Wales this week to play Europe in the fabled golf championship by touching down on Welsh soil at the Vale's Cardiff Airport.*  
**European captain Colin Montgomerie and his American counterpart Corey Pavin were happy to pose for local photographer Phil Davies with the Ryder Cup before the competition got under way.**

## Pencoed continue impressive run

**PENCOED** 48  
**NANTYFYLLON** 29

WITH a strong squad, Pencoed rearranged the winning team of the last few weeks to take on Nanty, who turned up with an impressive following, including some of their new starters.

Jack Rowlands had proved himself in the previous game and started at scrum-half. He immediately performed, and from the first breakdown quickly let the backs loose with a rocket pass.

John Carr passed it wide to Tyrone Harding. Setting up another phase, the ball was passed to Cael Chamberlain who ran the length of the half for Pencoed's first try.

Sam Costelow, Ben Sullivan and Oliver Lewis were taking up short ball down the middle, sucking in the defence ready for the counter. With Mikey Bosley, Josh Sands and those fabulous bending boys Tom and Rhys, tries were guaranteed. Cael

Chamberlain broke through a stalwart Nanty defence for Pencoed's second and Tyson Harding ran in a third try.

Nanty began to dominate the forward play and scored three tries.

Two well worked tries from Pencoed via new boy Josh Sands and flyer Tyron Harding ended the first half closer than was expected.

Nanty re-started strongly, but then Mikey Bosley made an interception and ran in from just inside Nanty's half.

Pencoed now took the upper hand and with another try from Mikey Bosley and a great individual try from John Carr, the game was over.

Nanty ran a creditable score at the whistle to finish a great game of rugby for both teams.

Pencoed: Jack Rowlands, Oliver Lewis, Sam Costelow, Rhys Spurgeon, Mikey Bosley, Cael Chamberlain, Ben Humphries, Joshua Sands, Ben Jones, Ethan Davies, Rhys Bending Thomas Bending, John Carr, Ben Sullivan, Tyron Harding.

MB

**Pencoed under-10s in form against Maesteg Celtic**

**MAESTEG CELTIC**  
**PENCOED**

7

52

THE second game of the season saw Pencoed under-10s travel up the valley to Maesteg Celtic and the crowd got an outstanding display of ball handling from both sides.

Boosted by some of their under-11s, the home side put together some great phases of play.

The visitors quickly got into gear, with Mikey Bosley and Josh Sands breaking tackles and setting up Thomas Bending for the first try.

Maesteg were up against a constant flow of attacks, with passes from Pencoed going through several sets of hands and resulting in tries from Mikey Bosley (2), Josh Sands and Sam Costelow.

Ethan Davies offloaded to Sam Costelow for Pencoed's sixth.

The home side, to their credit, took on the visitors up front. For once, it paid off and they went over for a well deserved try.

From the kick-off, normal service resumed and two quick tries were run in by Josh Sands to round off a dominant display resulting in eight tries and six conversions.

Team: Owain John, Mikey Bosley, Jack Rowlands, Rhys Spurgeon, Ethan Davies, Rhys Bending, Thomas bending, John Carr, Oliver Lewis, Ben Jones, Ben Sullivan, Joshua Sands, Ben Humphries, Cael Chamberlain, Tyrone Harding.

MB

## Pen-y-Fai School show off new kit



PEN-Y-FAI Church in Wales School are ready for the new school rugby term thanks to their new set of jerseys, kindly donated by Topspot Associates, Nolton Street, Bridgend.

School captain, Joe Grabham (bottom left), Jac Bassett, Jacob Thomas and Evan Morgan show off the new strip.

## Pencoed under-14s deliver the goods

**IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE GAME AGAINST NANTYFFYLLON, THE FIRST TRY CAME FROM A LINE OUT FOR PENCOD, WHICH ALLOWED NUMBER 8, JAMES WHITTAKER, TO JUMP UP AND CATCH THE BALL BEFORE PASSING IT TO SCRUM HALF, CHRIS COOPER.**

This allowed him to out sprint the Nanty defence and touch the ball down in the corner.

Pencoed kept on pushing to score more tries in the first half, and they looked lucky when flanker, Daniel Maiden, charged the ball down and the Pencoed boys started the chase, but the Nanty defence got back just in time and the ball went dead.

When Nanty were awarded a scrum, the boys didn't give up and hooked it back out for themselves. With a blind side run from Chris Cooper, and a cracking pass to winger, Jordan Fox, the Pencoed side scored another try when Jordan dived over in the corner.

The second half didn't bring any more tries, but even with more than twenty penalties against the team, the Pencoed boys stuck it out and the defence from both the back and forwards was

superb.

Pencoed were able to knock the Nanty forwards back every time they ran towards them, and when Nanty found themselves a space and passed the ball to the winger, a cracking cover tackle by winger Jamie Dyer gave the Pencoed boys another clean sheet.

The Pencoed players did well as they moved into different positions, and there were good performances all round. The man of the match was chosen by Nanty coach Damien, and it was awarded to Chris Cooper.

*Squad: Scott Ewing, Owain Clarke, Dan Heiling, Josh Mauder, Morgan Jefferies, Johnathan Clatworthy, Daniel Maiden, James Whittaker, Chris Cooper, Alex King, Will Sellar, Liam Bowen, Jason Clatworthy, Jamie Dyer, Lewis Brennan, Jack Briggs, Aled Bargery, Callum Sparkes and Jordan Fox.*

The team are looking forward to the match against Bridgend Sports this week.

Final score: Nantyffylon 0, Pencoed 10.

## GEM Quiz League posers

**HERE are your four teasers:**

1. What Spanish, Medicinal dish has a name that means 'sea-soused chilli'?
2. *Timon of Athens* and which other Shakespeare play is set in Athens?
3. Which American boxer, born in 1912, held world titles at three different weights?
4. Which decisive battle of the English Civil War was fought on June 16, 1645?

ALAN RUDGE

**ANSWERS:**  
1. Enchilada  
2. A Midsummer Night's Dream  
3. Henry VIII  
4. Hastings

## PYLE & KENFIG FINALS' DAY THROWS UP NEW CHAMPION!

**P&K has a new club champion.**

The honours board has the name Peet, Booth and Evans many times, and most of these players are of tall, lithe build in the mould of Tiger Woods, Nick Faldo, etc. This year there will be a new name, Andrew Thomas, who is more in the Ian Woosnam mould.

Andrew beat James Powlesland by 7 and 6 over 36 holes. Andrew plays off a handicap of 2, a level some of us hackers can only dream about. His place in the final was hard-earned, having beaten several in-form players en route.

He is a very popular member of the P&K first team with a great track record, and he has played for the Gloucester County team. A worthy champion indeed.

In the Sker Salver, Ian Booth, eight times club champion, proved that stories of his golfing demise are premature; Ian is a scratch golfer and still holds the course record.

Last season, he enjoyed a renaissance, helping the first team to win the Premier Division. This year, he caused a big surprise by failing to qualify for the club championship knockout stages.

Members wondered if he was on the wane – he proved them wrong with a fine performance in the Silver Salver, beating Leighton Jones in the final.

In the Lipscombe Cup final, John Carroll, playing off 18, won a hard-fought final against Robert Bizzell. In spite of the extremely competitive golf, the game was played in a most sporting manner.

The junior championship was played over 36 holes and won by two holes by Tom Beale. He beat Tom Easterbrook in a final played at an incredibly high level of golf. Several holes were halved in birdies.

Tom (Beale) had a bad start and was four down after five holes but he ground away and eventually caught and overtook his determined opponent.

The match was ably refereed by Margaret Wood (ladies captain) who, in spite of many years' experience in golf circles, was amazed at how far the young men hit the ball. On one hole, she was heard to say that they could build a supermarket in the land between where her drive and theirs would



Tom Easterbrook, Margaret Wood, Tom Beale.



James Tuck, Tom Furneaux, Mark Furneaux, Jay Templar, and Peter Williams.



Champion Andrew Thomas in full flight.



Stuart White, Steve Williams, Rob Bizzell, John Carroll, Neil Rodgers.



ABOVE:  
Ian Booth in action.

land!

The Graham Bowl is the club knockout competition and in the eyes of some, this is the most difficult to win.

Each round is knockout and each round is more difficult than the last as you progress to meet the players in form.

The worthy winner after this season's long marathon of golf was Alan Lavelle, beating Paul Vincent.

The Rosser Cup is a foursomes competition where the two players on a side share a ball. It is popular in many links courses but many golfers do not like it because of the ever-present worry of trying not to put their playing partner into difficult position(s).

This year the event was won by James Tuck and Jay Templar, who overcame Mark and Tom Furneaux.

Readers are reminded that there are vacancies available for members. Ring the office 01656 783093/771613; or the professional Dylan Williams 01656 772446; e-mail secretary@pandkgolfclub.co.uk; website www.pandkgolfclub.co.uk

## Athletic under-11s runners impress against Sports

### ATHLETIC GREENS v BRIDGEND SPORTS

**ON A BEAUTIFUL MORNING, THE ATH ENTERTAINED BRIDGEND SPORTS AND FROM THE KICK-OFF WENT ON THE OFFENSIVE.**

Quick ball from a ruck allowed Caine Woolerton to make a break and release Rhys Delucia, who powered over to open the scoring. Soon after, Caine shot over to increase the lead.

Forwards Joe Graham, Rhys Delucia, Jack Walker, Matthew Hobby and Morgan Hughes were playing really well and winning quick ball for the backs.

The backline of Rhys Gamble, Caine, Ieuan Thomas, Joe Patterson, Harry Provtgaard, Dylan Parry and Chris Matthews also did good work at the breakdown.

From one such play, Harry sidestepped his way through the defence before putting Rhys Delucia in for try number three.

Although the Ath had the lion's share of possession, the Sports defended resolutely and repelled several attacks with fine tackling.

This, together with some wasted overlaps where men in space were ignored, kept the scoreboard still until Ieuan Thomas pounced on a loose pass to make it 20-0 at half-time.

In the second half, the Ath continued to impress with Harry Provtgaard running in a try from deep inside his own half, and Chris scoring after he bulldozed over to increased the lead.

Caine then scored after a lovely break and offload from Kyle Ball, while a good sequence of passing involving Joe Patterson and Jack Walker saw Joe Graham sprint over in the corner for a great team try.

Jac Bassett, Ethan Bennett and Tom Zielinski came out to add fresh legs to the pack and they won the ball, which was worked out to Dylan Parry who completed the scoring in the corner.

This was a very good performance by the Ath, who finished winners 45-0.

Full marks must go to the Sports who never gave up and tackled manfully to the end.

Man of the match was Matthew Hobby, who had a fine all round game.

### ATHLETIC YELLOWS v BRIDGEND SPORTS

**DREW CODING STARTED THE MATCH WITH HIS USUAL EXCELLENT HANGING KICK WHICH PUT THE ATH ON THE ATTACK.**

However, the Sports came back strongly and deservedly took the lead with a well worked try.

Skipper Iwan Osbourne rallied his troops, only for them to be hit on the counter by another good Sports try.

Ath backs Cameron Lewis, Paul Teesdale, Callum Morgan and Nathan Willis put in some excellent covering tackles and looked to attack at every opportunity, but again it was good Sports defence that kept the boys out.

Although the Sports took a 15-0 lead, it was the Ath who scored the best try of the match, when the ball was passed through the hands superbly to winger Nathan Willis who sped over to make the final score Ath Yellows 5, the Sports 15.

Man of the match went to Paul Teesdale, who tackled well and ran hard all game.

LG

## Bridgend Ladies hockey experience mixed fortunes

**BRIDGEND LADIES HAD MIXED FORTUNES THIS WEEKEND.**

The First XI played Penarth in the league. Bridgend started the game well, keeping possession of the ball, and moving it through to the forwards for a shot on goal scored by Louise Jones.

Penarth countered and got a goal back. Eventually, Penarth's pressure resulted in another goal, against the run of play.

The second half started well for Bridgend with another goal coming from Amy Paice.

Penarth picked up the pace and the forwards broke through, scoring another three goals. Final result 5-2.

The Second XI played Rhondda in the Cup on Sunday. Within the first five minutes, Bridgend showed their dominance with a goal, with good stick work coming from Louise Jones.

Rhondda counter-attacked, but a strong defence kept them out. Bridgend continued to move the ball forward, with Michelle Hancock making some lovely runs passing onto Sarah and Louise, who both scored goals.

Rhondda attacked from the start, moving the ball quickly between the forwards with a shot on goal saved by Abby Richards, only to have a counter-attack result in a goal.

This kick-started Bridgend to put pressure on the Rhondda defence with Michelle Hancock, Mims and Sarah all attacking the D. with a near miss coming from Maggie Cooper.

Two more goals came in quick session, both from Louise Jones.

Final score 5-1, the Second XI are now through to the next round of the Cup, which is to be played on October 31.

Please email

your sports

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A vacancy exists for the post of Clerk to the Council. Management, Computer literacy and Accounting skills are essential. Car user. Hours minimum of 20 per week.

**Salary c. & £22,221.00. Pro rata 37 hours.**

Application Packs are available from Sully Community Council, Jubilee Hall, Smithies Avenue, Sully CF64 5SS. Tel: 029 20530006 or [sulycouncil@btconnect.com](mailto:sulycouncil@btconnect.com) Closing Date: Noon Friday 15th October 2010

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**Family Notices****JAMES, Kristopher Gareth Aged 32 of Llantwit Major**

Tragically lost on the 8th of September in a road traffic accident near Hamburg, Germany. Devoted Father of Scarlett, much loved Son of Delphy and Gareth, dearly loved Brother to Karen and Rob and Uncle to Evan and Rees. Will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

A celebration of his life to be held on Thursday 30th September at 10.45am at St Illtud's Church followed by burial at Bovertown Cemetery. All are welcome to join family and friends at the White Lion pub to remember Kris.

**CADMAN, Eileen**

The family would like to thank everyone for their support, kindness and sympathy shown to them during their very sudden loss of Mum, who was loved by everyone.

Very many thanks to all who attended the funeral and for the cards and messages of sympathy received. Also for the donations in memory of Mum for Cancer Research Wales.

**JONES David Gareth**

Peacefully on September 24 at Milsom House, St Athan, Gareth of Ystradgwyn.

Beloved husband of Anita, dearly loved father of Huw, Philip and Justin, dear father-in-law of Alona, Denice and Justine, cherished by all his grandchildren. Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon.

Funeral Monday October 4, service 1.45pm at Ystradgwyn Church followed by cremation at Coyerch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Alzheimer's Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF62 3DZ.

**Public Notices****PEARCE Marjorie Elizabeth**

The family would like to thank the respiratory team at Llandough Hospital, Father Malcolm Davies, W. James and Sons and Hilary West. Also, all Marjorie's friends for their kind wishes and memories shared.

**Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 – Notice Under Article 6**

Mr J Bryant is to appeal to the National Assembly for Wales against the Vale of Glamorgan Council's decision to refuse outline planning permission for the erection of 1(No) detached dwelling on land adjacent to 91 Main Road, Ogmore-By-Sea. Any owner of the land who wishes to make representations about the appeal should write to: Planning Inspectorate, Crown Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ.

**Wedding Announcement**

Chris and Mike Williamson are very proud to announce the wedding of their daughter Hannah, formerly of Llantwit Major, to Peter Henry of Brisbane, Australia.

The ceremony took place at The Barn at Brynich, near Brecon, on September 25, 2010. The reception was held nearby at the Pen Pont Estate.

*A beautiful day, in wonderful countryside, with very special people. We wish them love, joy and happiness as they start their new life together in Sydney, Australia.*

**Birthdays**

**October 4th**  
**VICTORIA MERCEDES**  
**Happy 9th Birthday**



With all our love –  
your family and friends  
XXX

**Anniversaries**

Congratulations on your **GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**MUM & DAD Jackie & Clive Williams**

on 1 October 2010  
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# The Cowbridge squash club members prepare for 'competitive' season

IT'S that time of year again! The time when Cowbridge squash team players put in that little extra effort to prepare for the new season.

There is a noticeable increase in activity around the club after a summer of just "ticking over" to keep "one's hand(s) in".

The new season starts the week beginning Monday, October 4, but already the B team squad have been in action with a friendly match against higher opposition in the form of Fairwater A; going down 1-4, but in a series of competitive encounters despite being a few players short.

The real stuff starts with a home fixture against UWIC B in South Glamorgan Division One on Thursday, October 7 when the team is chosen from the regular personalities of Steve Morris, Paul Reynish, Chris Ranger, Richard Ford, Colin Baxter, Julian Jenkins, Russ Watts, Chris Harris and Ade Fisher (if fit!), plus the addition of the youthful Alex Voake to front up the team at No 1.

The Bs will also be entertaining teams from Old Penarthians, Rhiwbina, St Mellons and Llanishen.

The Cowbridge A team will be playing Cardiff Academicals, South Wales Police, Caldicot B,

Rhiwbina B and David Lloyd's A in trying to further the highest level of league squash witnessed at Cowbridge ever.

Currently aiming for a fourth consecutive promotion (from South Wales Division Two East A) will be the hard core team of Nick Guard (captain), Jon Bisson, Garfield Leask, Simon Payne and Niall Sloan.

Meanwhile the C team will be looking to bounce back from South Glamorgan Division Three with visits to and from Fairwater B, David Lloyd's C, Rhiwbina E, UHW A and Barry Leisure B.

New captain Dave Matthews will be looking to steer his team of stalwarts (Colin Giles, Hugh Wallace, Tony Steele, Phil Matthews, Mike Burnett) plus new squad member Ed Lowe to higher climes.

The Junior Section (ages 7 to 14) has already started its winter programme under the careful guidance of coaches Niall Sloan and Julie Clode and continues to grow in strength.

*Membership is always open to all levels – further details may be obtained from Chairman Clive Prigg on 01446 773729 or from club skipper russ.watts@btopenworld.com.*

RUSS WATTS

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990 CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

### DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiodd gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

#### Development in Conservation Areas Datblygiad mewn Ardalodd Cadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00953/FUL Two storey extension and single storey swimming pool building
Location:/Lleoliad: Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Pikel House, Cowbridge Road, St. Nicholas  St. Nicholas
Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00963/FUL Installation of two, four stack dipole antennas on free-standing grillage and ancillary development with the equipment located within an internal equipment room at ground level
Location:/Lleoliad: Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Barry Island Gym, Paget Road, Barry  Barry (Marine)
Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00976/FUL Construction of replacement wall in natural stone Hawthorns, Gadlys Lane, Llanmaes
Location:/Lleoliad: Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Llanmaes
Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00990/FUL Extension of dwelling to provide a sun lounge, new garage and car port on ground floor. Change of use of existing garage to form a lounge, Extension of bedrooms 2 & 5 on first floor.
Location:/Lleoliad: Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth	Sweetings, Llanquian Road, Aberthin, Cowbridge  Aberthin

#### Listed Building Consent Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00942/LBC Remove two columns from kiosk to open up front elevation onto promenade. Remove three air vents and install three windows on rear elevation.
Location:/Lleoliad: Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	The Promenade Cafe, The Promenade, Barry  Grade II
Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00949/LBC Proposed work will involve emergency repair to the building's fabric. This includes timber truss and beam repairs, repair and replacement of stone casement windows, replacement of timber lintels, localised consolidation of loose sections of masonry and repair of the south elevation stonework and rainwater goods.
Location:/Lleoliad: Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Fonmon Castle, Fonmon, Nr. Barry  Grade I
Application No:/ Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00987/LBC Extension of dwelling to provide a sun lounge, new garage and car port on ground floor. Change of use of existing garage to form a lounge, Extension of bedrooms 2 & 5 on first floor.
Location:/Lleoliad: Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig	Sweetings, Llanquian Road, Aberthin, Cowbridge  Grade II

#### Development that might affect the setting of a Listed Building

## SULLY SPORTS B FC LOOKS TO BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD



Back row (left to right): W Lamb, C Williams, M Case, K Ball, D Cooper, M Ursell, A Owen, J McCann, K Lewis, D Brown, A Bekker, R James, R Evans. Front row (left to right): G Flanders, J Burdge, J Lamb, S Lamb, S Hulland, J Barnett.

SULLY Sports B (football team) has recently acquired new home and away football strips with kind sponsorship from New Broad Street Motors Ltd of Broad Street Barry.

The team have a record of two wins, two draws and three losses to date, but with a bit more composure at those crucial moments it is envisaged that the boys will start increasing that all important win ratio.

## Connor stars with an unstoppable hat-trick of tries

### BRIDGEND ATHLETIC under-10s

v

### BRIDGEND SPORTS

## GREENS

WHAT a beautiful sunny Sunday morning for two local rivals to take on each other.

It was Sports to kick off and Sam Veasey caught the ball well for the Ath. Sam made good ground with good support from the Ath team.

The Ath attacked with Teo picking up the ball and driving well with the support of the pack, but once again the Sports managed to defend well right on the try line with a tackle into touch.

The Sports managed to clear their lines with a kick up field which was caught by Sam Veasey, who passed it to Connor Fabian, who made a great run up field.

Then a fantastic pick-up by Jack Obbard ended with Connor, who weaved his way up the field to score a try which was converted by Jamie Marshall, taking the score to 7-0.

The Ath managed to keep the pressure up with the Sports doing some great defending. It wasn't long before the next try came with Sam Veasey making a fantastic run down the touch line and going over the line.

The conversion was missed which meant the half-time score was Bridgend Ath 12 Bridgend Sports 0.

The Ath kicked off the second half and began where they left off in the first half, putting pressure on the Sports. Sam scored again in the top corner. Jamie Marshall converted to make the score 19-0.

A great pick up by Connor Fabian allowed him to go over for the fourth try, which was converted by Jamie Marshall making it 26-0.

From another Ath scrum, Dafydd Beach passed out to Connor Fabian who went over for his third try. Jamie Marshall converted to make the score 33-0.

Teo Fillis was replaced by Morgan Evans who straightaway got hold of the ball and made good headway up field.

The Sports kicked downfield which was taken fantastically by Megan Webb, who dodged in and out to go over the try line and Connor Fabian converted, making it 40-0 at the final whistle.

*Greens: Louis King, Jack Obbard, Jade Thomas, Thomas Anthony, Teo Fillis, Dafydd Beach, Connor Fabian, Jamie Marshall, Kasari Mehta, Sam Veasey, Ffion Revill, Charles Creffield, Morgan Evans, Megan Webb and Lance Burn.*

## YELLOW

THE Ath kicked off and the Sports took the ball well and moved up field.

It was the Sports who got on the scoresheet first with a try which was converted to make it 7-0.

Half-time score: Bridgend Ath 0 Bridgend Sports 7.

The Sports made a good interception and scored their second try, which was converted making it 14-0.

The Ath were defending really well under pressure. Megan Webb made a quick break and passed out to Louis King, who went over the line with Christopher Hart converting to take the score line to 7-14.

The Sports came back strongly with four more unanswered tries, taking the score to 40-7.

Full credit to the Yellows as they held their heads high and battled until the end.

Some good driving from the pack saw the Ath come close to getting another try, but were stopped short by some great defending from the Sports.

Final score: Ath Yellows 7, Bridgend Sports 40.

*Yellows: Morgan Evans, Brandon Fooks, Taine Waite, James Hermolle, Charles Creffield, Josh Tidy, Christopher Hart, Megan Webb, Lance Burn, William Goodall, Louis King, Ffion Revill, Conner Fabian, Kasari Mehta, Sam Veasey.*

LISA REVILL

#### Application(s) that might affect a Public Right of Way Ceisiadau a allai fod o Diddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00799/OUT Demolition of existing joinery and glass factory and construction of ten, two and three bedroom linked houses, with off street parking and private gardens
Location:/Lleoliad:	P & A Joinery & Glazing, Herbert Street and Gilbert Street, Barry
Application No:/Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00961/FUL Two storey cafe with external seating at ground floor level and a terrace at first floor
Location:/Lleoliad:	Boverton Road, Llanwit Major

#### Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00957/FUL Proposed retention of barn converted to dwelling.
Location:/Lleoliad:	Unit 02, Seaview, St. Athan

#### Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/Rhif y cais: Proposal:/Cynnig:	2010/00944/OUT Erection of two detached dwellings and garages, re-alignment of access to site together with the demolition of existing precast 'ATCOST' type farm buildings
Location:/Lleoliad:	Land adjacent to New Park Farm, St. Donats
	Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y ceiriaid ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol syrddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrest Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 30 September, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Head of Planning and Transportation  
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office,  
Barry Docks,  
Barry  
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 30 Medi, 2010  
Rob Thomas  
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant  
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,  
Swyddfa'r Doc,  
Dociau'r Barri,  
Y Barri  
CF63 4RT

# WEATHER STAYS DRY AS RACERS VIE FOR GLORY

**LLANDOW** Kart Club was blessed with another dry weekend as 65 competitors turned out to do battle in the eighth round of its summer championship.

As usual, with the culmination of a season's endeavours drawing ever nearer, the on-track action was both fierce and contentious, but it was the time trialists in the new-for-2010 Bambino class that caught the eye.

The Llandow club enjoyed its biggest turnout of 6-7 year olds, with five runners taking to the track in search of their best individual lap time. The Bambino format does not permit any form of racing between competitors, and drivers are classified – and rewarded – according to their performance against a given target time.

Despite the close competition, George Alp-Williams emerged as the weekend's winner, posting the best time in two of the three heats, and then doing so again in the final. Fellow newcomer Ffion Rees denied Alp-Williams a clean sweep by claiming the second run of the day, but was denied a spot in the final top three as Jake Bagley and August round winner Morgan Chell completed the podium.

Cadet Honda numbers were up slightly on the previous month, with a dozen drivers in action, and enjoying track time without their Honda brethren. Yousaf Ashraf took the opening heat, and followed that up with second behind Ross Thomas in heat two, but thereafter it was August winner Ari White to the fore, claiming heat three and the final. Ashraf took runners-up honours ahead of Thomas, the pair having shared the front row.

The Comer Cadet class also saw its number swelled by an additional starter, but an acrimonious weekend ended in drama as frontrunners Harry Williams and Owen Griffiths saw their participation culminate in the clerk of the course's office after a final lap clash.

Prior to that, the pair had shared the heat wins, with Williams getting the nod for pole and leading until the penultimate lap, when emotions boiled over. Although Griffiths went on to take the chequered flag, he joined Williams – who was accused of blocking – in being disqualified from the race. Lewis Griffiths gratefully accepted the final victory, ahead of Scott Morris and Tylor Ballard.

By contrast, there were just three Honda Junior entries and, while the racing was close, no-one had an answer for Jamie Warren, who claimed victory each time the trio



ABOVE: George Alp-Williams came out on top of a burgeoning Bambino class at Llandow Kart Club in August.

ventured out. Similarly, Alex Thomas continued her strong recent form with second place in each race, while August winner Lloyd Sealy took third spot.

A dozen Junior Rotax drivers turned out for the weekend, but Joshua Collings proved to be the one to beat, winning the opening pair of heats and going on to take the final by a massive 11 seconds.

Josh Gray proved to be Collings' closest opposition on the result sheet, adding second place in the final to a brace of thirds from the heats, but the spot had been filled on the track by Macaulay Austin, who was subsequently disqualified for having the wrong chassis number on his scrutineering card.

Dean Clayton inherited the final podium spot, denying regular frontrunners Adam Berwick and Ryan Wheeler, who were classified fourth and fifth after failing to reach the chequered flag in race one, and Oliver Pidgey, who faded to ninth in the final after claiming two runners-up spots in the heats.

Minimax winner Morgan Rose was even more dominant than Collings, claiming victory in each of the four races to deny James Williams, who finished second three times on the day. Lewis Malin got the better of the Delta Karting driver in heat one, but could do nothing about either Williams or Rose in the main event.

## RESULTS

BAMBINO – 1, George Alp-Williams; 2, Jake Bagley (Tony); 3, Morgan Chell (CRG).

CADET HONDA – 1, Ari White (Project One); 2, Yousaf Ashraf (Project One); 3, Ross Thomas (Wright).

CADET COMER – 1, Lewis Griffiths (Zip); 2, Scott Morris; 3, Tylor Ballard (Zip).

JUNIOR HONDA – 1, Jamie Warren (Wright); 2, Alex Thomas (Jade); 3, Lloyd Sealy (MS).

JUNIOR TKM 2-STROKE – 1, Sebastian Hutchinson (Intrepid); 2, Jack Love (Gillard); 3, Niall Williams (JHK).

JUNIOR TKM 4-STROKE – 1, Ryan Jones (CRG).

JUNIOR ROTAX – 1, Josh Collings (CRG); 2, Josh Grey; 3, Dean Clayton (Alonso).

MINI MAX – 1, Morgan Rose (Tonykart); 2, James Williams (Tonykart); 3, Lewis Malin (Tonykart).

SENIOR HONDA – 1, Simon Evans (7Kart); 2, Ferdinand Ball (MS); 3, Paul Saunders (7Kart).

SENIOR ROTAX – 1, Chris Davis (Storm); 2, Ashley Davies (Intrepid); 3, Shaun Fulford (CRG).

ROTAX 177 – 1, Wayne Stone (Tonykart).

YOUTH – 1, Ethan Morris (7Kart).

ZEPHYRUS – 1, Ethan Morris (7Kart).

ZEPHYRUS 125 – 1, Ethan Morris (7Kart).

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# 'Outstanding' under-11s show off their skills

## Under-10s

RUMNEY	14
BRYNCETHIN	14

Due to illness and school commitments, a depleted squad travelled to Cardiff on a glorious Sunday morning.

Captained by Kathryn Pritchard, the Bryncethin youngsters started strongly and were soon pressing for the opening score. Solid defence from Rumney allowed them to turn over possession and release their wings to open the scoring for the home team.

Bryncethin were showing great determination in the tackle and at the breakdown allowing them to move up field for Ethan Hopkins to score a try he converted himself.

The second half followed the same pattern with Bryncethin pressure punctuated by a Rumney score. Continued teamwork allowed Scott Ryall to break up the blind side and power over for a try. Jack Thomas converted to level the scores.

## Halse stars as Pencoed renew their confidence

PENCOED	40
MORRISTON	20

THE home side were let off in the opening minute with the visitors missing a relatively easy penalty chance.

Full-back Jenkins then took his second opportunity from in front of the posts for Morriston to lead 3-0.

After absorbing early Morriston pressure, outside-half Marc Davies put Pencoed into an attacking position with a fine kick. Morriston offended at the ensuing ruck, and Davies levelled matters from 30 metres.

The visitors then took advantage of slack midfield defence and burst through to the Pencoed posts where they were just held up short. At this stage, the home side were dropping off first up tackles, and only desperate cover defence kept Morriston out.

Then skipper Aaron Halse put Pencoed on the attack bursting away, recycled possession gave the home backs a chance down the tight side, but a pass to free wing Aaron Songhurst was behind the player.

Davies then put Pencoed ahead with a superb 40-metre penalty from out on the right. Shortly afterwards, Pencoed countered from their own 22, and fine athleticism from centre Geoff Hobbs put supporting full-back Glen Hiscocks in at the posts. Davies converted for Pencoed to lead 13-3.

The big Morriston forwards were posing certain problems on the charge, but the home side's scramble defence was doing just enough to keep them out.

Pencoed then conceded a needless penalty in midfield, for Jenkins to cut the home lead to 13-6 at the interval.

Halse was leading by example for Pencoed with several strong carries, and set up the position for Davies to increase the home lead to 16-6. A clever kick from scrum-half Tom Davies put Pencoed into the visitors' 22, but frustratingly for the home support, they conceded a penalty, only metres out.

Pencoed were now on top, and with both sides having picked up yellow cards, the home side scored the try of the match. Back row forward James Murphy drove at the heart of the Morriston defence, triggering off his fellow forwards, who combined with a bout of subtle short passing, with the ever-present Murphy deservedly crossing wide out. Davies added the extras, and together with an earlier penalty, Pencoed now led 26-6.

Morriston then came back and wheeled a close up scrum to score in the corner. Jenkins converted from the touchline.

Pencoed responded immediately with Halse surging through from 30 metres out, Davies converted for a 33-13 lead.

Pencoed left wing Songhurst intercepted in his own 22 and sped away to the posts, Davies converted to increase the lead to 40-13.

Morriston weren't finished, however, and came back with a converted try at the posts for a final scoreline of 40-20.

Pencoed skipper Halse took the man of the match honours, with Davies and Murphy also in the running.

Pencoed will travel to Taibach on Saturday with renewed confidence, and will look to further improve their league position.

TR

A terrific all round performance from the depleted squad. The travelling support were delighted with the attitude shown by the players.

*Match day squad: Kathryn Pritchard (captain), Scott Ryall, Morgan Stevens, Finlay Mullens, Jack Thomas, Tobias Hunt, Daniel Osarigie, Ethan Hopkins and Geraint Richards. Man of the Match: Finlay Mullens.*

## Under-11s

GARW	5
BRYNCETHIN	55

IN the first of two matches, the Bryncethin youngsters showed great skills and discipline to overpower a very game Garw.

All the players were outstanding as they combined to score nine tries against a depleted opponent who were missing a number of key players.

Tries: Ryan Blake 2, Gethyn Napper, Morgan Tarr 2, Aaron Jones, Dafydd Evans 3. Conversion: Dafydd Evans and Ryan Lovell.

VALLEY RAVENS	10
BRYNCETHIN	35

A SECOND terrific performance saw a hard fought victory against the Ravens.

A special mention goes to Owen Bryant who turned out for the Ravens in the second half to cover an injury.

Tries: Iwan Veasey 2, Dafydd Evans, Aaron Jones, Ryan Lovell, Ryan Blake 2.

*Match day squad: Thomas Brown (captain), Jake Canton, Ryan Morgan, Ryan Blake, Ryan Lovell, Gethyn Napper, Aaron Jones, Iwan Veasey, Dafydd Evans, Emrys Watkin, Morgan Tarr, Sam Shakeshaft and Emrys Hunnam. Man of the Match: Ryan Lovell.*

## Under-12s

BRYNCETHIN	28
MAESTEG WELSH	12

A FAST paced game was played out with both teams contributing to an excellent match.

Two first half scores for Bryncethin with tries for Ieuan Davies and Christian Jones, both converted by Ieuan. Not to be outdone, Maesteg hit back with a try and conversion of their own to make it 14-7 at half-time.

The first score of the second half went to Maesteg following excellent work on the break. Fortunately for Bryncethin, this went unconverted so they maintained their lead.

Further Bryn scores followed with two Morgan Bay tries, both converted by Casey Sonnekus to complete the scoring.

*Match day squad: Christian Jones (captain), Aaron McIntyre, Adam John, Casey Sonnekus, Connor Ford, Henry Clark, Ieuan Davies, Jack Ladler, Jacob Walters, Leon Sylvester, Liam Morgan, Morgan Howells, Morgan Lake, Nicholas Morgan, Sam Harding, William Blake. Man of the Match: Morgan Lake.*

RH

## Pencoed RFC Seconds lose out to the fitter side

TONDU 2nds	30
PENCOED	15

THE Pencoed side, led by Ashley Halse, gave a good account of themselves, going down eventually by 30-15.

The team put together through the efforts of new Second XV team manager Dai Clark on the day, by their own admission were beaten by a fitter side.

Jamie Williams, playing in the scrum-half position, scored all the Pencoed points with five penalty goals, and young Williams will surely become a valued member of the first team squad in the near future.

The Pencoed front row of Ashley Halse, Stephen Potts, and the evergreen Dai Clark did well at the scrum, with young back row forward Rhys Pope, and the more seasoned Huwel Llewellyn, getting through a lot of work in the back row.

Liam Halse, in the unfamiliar role of outside-half, had a good game, along with centre Ashley Pinches.

Dean Saunders, back on the openside for the first time in around 10 years, also stood out.

On Saturday, the second team host Bridgend Sports in the District Cup.

TR

# Bridgend Athletic RFC lands community award



HAVING launched the Community Awards last autumn, SWALEC, the national community partner of the Welsh Rugby Union, has announced Bridgend Athletic RFC as one of the competition winners.

The club was rewarded for its exceptional commitment to active participation and has been presented with SWALEC with £1,000

worth of Webb Ellis vouchers, used to purchase kit and equipment essential to productive and safe training, for their efforts.

Bridgend Athletic RFC's nomination outlined the extent of the work done to make rugby available to minis, juniors and seniors at every level, with more than 250 mini and junior players, and two youth teams with more than 50 youth players registered with the club. An equal opportunities policy is used and everyone is welcomed to play for Bridgend

Athletic RFC.

Tony Bennett, Bridgend Athletic RFC's mini and junior vice-chairman, commented: "It is a fantastic success for the club to receive this award. Our success is down to the number of volunteers, mostly made-up of qualified coaches, who invest their time in improving the teams at every level. Our junior sides have benefited tremendously and we now have a very solid foundation of players."

## Bridgend Athletic Youth win with two minutes to spare

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC YOUTH	22
BONYMAEN YOUTH	19

THE Athletic Youth travelled to Bonymaen for their first Ospreys league fixture of the season and were expecting a much harder test after scoring 219 points in their four friendlies to date.

The Athlets got off to a flying start with their first score after only three minutes when the ball was won from a lineout 30 yards out from the Bonymaen line. The ball was moved swiftly across the line for full-back Mike Powell to enter the line at a great angle and with tremendous pace to cross for a superb score. Corey Butler converted.

Bonymaen possessed a large set of forwards and a pair of powerful centres and they used these assets to great effect, causing the Athletic defence considerable problems.

However, the Athletic increased their lead with another top class try when they took a quick tap on their own 25-yard line. Captain Sean Derrick took the ball forward and it was quickly recycled across to winger Luke Morgan, who beat his opposite number with some elusive running before passing back inside to Mike Powell, who crossed for his second score. The conversion failed.

Bonymaen were full of spirit and countered with a good try of their own from some great interpassing which started on the halfway line and they crossed in the corner for an unconverted effort.

The ding-dong nature of the game continued before second row Harry Griffiths won yet another of the Bonymaen lineout throws. The ball was moved to the midfield, where Mike Powell skilfully put Luke Morgan through the gap and he ran 50 yards for a great try. The conversion failed.

Unfortunately, minutes later, Morgan had to leave the field with a nasty shoulder injury and the Athletic had lost one of their potent strike weapons.

Bonymaen then struck back with a slick move after rucking the ball 20 yards out with their centre getting a well deserved converted try.

At half-time, the Athletic were ahead 17-12 but were not at their best, making too many handling errors and missing first up tackles.

Not long into the second half, Bonymaen moved the ball from a lineout 15 yards out and crossed for a converted try, which gave them the lead for the first time. Their tails were well and truly up and the omens for the Athletic were not good.

The game ebbed and flowed and the Athletic were suffering their fair share of injuries which disrupted their rhythm, albeit they were up against a very physical and powerful outfit, as always.

With 10 minutes to go, the Athletic stirred into action and pounded the Bonymaen defence, coming on several occasions but with two minutes left, they created the necessary overlap on the right side to put winger Daniel Howells for the game's winning score.

This was a fantastic game which the Athletic just deserved to win and hopefully puts them in good stead for the remainder of the campaign.

## Pencoed Phoenix turn on the running style

GORSEINON	5
PENCOED PHOENIX	55

PHOENIX kicked off in brilliant sunshine at Gorseinon, and went straight on the offensive, with loose head prop Leanne Casley crashing over in the corner in the opening minute.

After a period of pressure Gorseinon seized on a loose clearance, to move the ball wide and cross in the corner.

Phoenix left wing Jo Poupon then latched on to a kick, and showing good ball control from 25 metres out, won the race for the touchdown.

Shortly afterwards Poupon scored a brilliant try, running in from 80 metres, evading several tacklers on her way to the try line.

Kathryn Criger converted for a 17-5 lead.

Hooker Natalie O'Shea then brought off a superb cover tackle on the Gorseinon left wing who had appeared clear.

O'Shea minutes later stormed over from a tap penalty 20 metres out.

Phoenix then scored within a minute, speedster Sam Humphrey scorching away from 50 metre to score.

Phoenix started the second half off in the way they had ended the first half, centre Amy Stevens cutting through to put co-centre Hannah Leigh Young over.

Sarah Hughes converted. Phoenix were now well on top, No 8 Mariana Newth leading the side well, crashed through several tackles in a forty metre run into the home 22, where Phoenix were able to capitalise on loose home possession for outside half Criger to score. Hughes converted.

A Stevens' half break then brought the next score, Humphrey straightening up to score, and convert.

Humphrey again showed her pace to score from 50 metres out, Hughes adding the extras to seal a comprehensive victory by 55 points to 5.

Gorseinon chose Sam Humphrey as Player of the Match.

There were also good Phoenix performances from Leanne Casley, Natalie O'Shea, Jo Poupon, and Alana Shakespeare.

The next Phoenix Development game is at home to Treorchy on Sunday, October 10 at 2.30 pm kick-off.

*Due to increased playing numbers at Phoenix it is necessary to look for another qualified coach. Interested people should contact Terry Rees on 01656 863109.*

PR

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## CAVS president leads the old guard to victory!

FROM PAGE 32

Bank Holiday Monday saw the Cavaliers celebrate their 35th anniversary with a match between the President's XI and the Chairman's XI. With the president, Simon Jones, giving a strong impression of Shane Warne to take three wickets for only five runs, the Chairman's XI were indebted to a whirlwind 53 not out from Sam Pickford as they reached 109 after 20 overs. Nigel Allison and Mike Hadlow both retired on 30 not out as the President's innings closed on 108 after 20 overs.

In their second innings, the Chairman's XI set the President's XI what looked like a stiff ask of 131 to win. Julian Griffiths (34 not out), James Snelson (26) and Sam Pickford (28 not out) were the pick of the chairman's batsmen with Pickford batting superbly in both innings.

The youthful Chairman's XI got off to a confident start with a couple of early wickets but when the chips are down you can be sure club president Simon Jones will deliver, and his 28 not out, helped by Richard Kelly (25) Phil Harris (30 not out) and Dave Russell (22) saw the old brigade triumph. Ed's barbecue was a fitting end to a very successful season.



ABOVE:  
Sam Pickford.

The season saw Julian Griffiths impose himself as a very talented all round cricketer. He managed to pass 2,000 runs for the season to take his all-time Cavaliers total past 6,000 runs with 14 centuries and 36 fifties!

He took 50 wickets as a bowler to move onto a Cavs career total of 244 and pouched 32 catches, with four as wicketkeeper. He also managed two stumpings to add to seven run-outs.

Sam Pickford, with his maiden century and some excellent bowling displays, looks another bright up-and-coming star, while seasoned campaigners Ed Pickford and Mark Caldwell also passed the 3,000 Cavaliers career runs milestone.

The Cavaliers would also like to say a massive thank you to Julie Cheal for the delicious teas and help throughout the season, and Rhian Orchard for stepping in when needed and for providing a great lunch on president's day.

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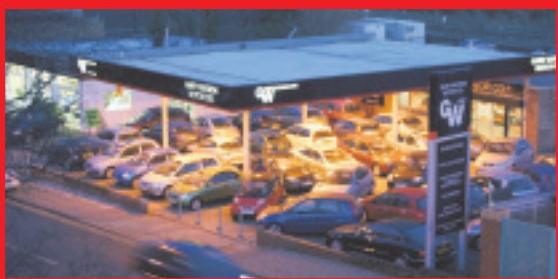
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# GEM sport

**BACK PAGE COMMENT** by Don John

## The Regions need to measure up if dream is to become reality

*"October is a fine and dangerous season ... a wonderful time to begin anything at all" - Thomas Merton, writer, poet and Trappist monk.*

**O**ctober 2010-October 2011 - what a momentous 12 months is in prospect as a marathon sports banquet, the like of which has not been seen in the Welsh Rugby Union's 129-year history, gets under way.

(Our national game's earliest roots, in fact, go back even further - to the mid 19th century at Lampeter College - followed in 1875 by the creation of the South Wales Football Union.)

However, the first international match was against England on February 19, 1881, when a scratch Welsh XV was whitewashed in a humiliating sixtry baptism of fire at Blackheath.

No doubt this crushing defeat was the spark behind the historic meeting in the Castle Hotel, Neath on March 12, when 11 clubs voted to form the Welsh Rugby Union.

The current WRU hierarchy would do well to remember the fact that it owes its very existence to the clubs, not the other way around!

Ironically, having controversially reduced the elite Welsh club system to just four regions, it now seems set on pointedly clipping the latter's wings by removing them from the WRU board.

On though to more pressing playing matters, and continuing the culinary analogy...

First we have four appetizers - the autumn 'friendlies' that aren't - against the Tri-Nations giants, plus Fiji in Cardiff; then come five spring *hors d'oeuvres* - the Six Nations; followed by three summer salads (England twice and Argentina); then the *piece de resistance* - next autumn's mouthwatering main course - Rugby World Cup 2011, waiting to be served up by the already salivating New Zealand hosts in October.

With extra side dishes provided by the four regions in the Magners League and (hopefully) Europe, the table is set for non-stop rugby fare that should sate even the most voracious fans' appetites over the coming year.

For the Welsh national squad, of course, the daunting prospect of a 12-month playing schedule that will rise to a World Cup climax, represents an



LEFT:

Sir Tasker Watkins was a holder of the Victoria Cross, a High Court Judge, and a long-serving president of the Welsh Rugby Union, and his bronze statue dominates the entrance to the Millennium Stadium. So, what would Sir Tasker think of the latest controversy over the figure that loomed above him when the WRU recently unveiled the national team's latest strip?

the Rugby World Cup and that Welsh players have become "too soft".

Far be it for me to take issue with the legendary Duke! However, what does seem indisputable is that at this moment in time, the top tier of Welsh rugby is well short of the level required if Wales to mount a realistic challenge for the Webb Ellis trophy Down Under - certainly when compared to the Tri-Nations giants' state of play.

In this respect, the autumn 'friendlies' in Cardiff will take on even greater significance, in terms of assessing just what can and must be done to close the gap in the year ahead.

As stated on many occasions, Welsh rugby has undoubtedly made huge strides in terms of achieving greater physical durability and ball-winning muscularity up front - and there is absolutely no doubt that native flair is still there in abundance among the threequarters.

And yet...

Until the disparate parts are finally moulded into a cohesive whole, able to compete with precision at the highest level, not just in occasional patches, but on a ruthlessly-repetitive basis, *a la* the All Blacks, the dream of a permanent place at rugby's top table will remain just that.

However, all is not yet lost and there is still time to discover the elusive consistency that is an absolute pre-requisite for success.

The initial onus is on the four regions to lay the groundwork by at last becoming a real force in Europe - and finally justify that contentious WRU decision to choose them over the elite club structure when it came to professional reorganisation.

One can only hope now that the long-running saga is speedily resolved, for he is a genuine world class talent and the present uncertainty does no one any good.

Mind you, Welsh hopes will have taken a dent from the typically trenchant views of another famous superstar of the past, Bobby 'Duke' Windsor, that Wales can never aspire to winning

the ball himself to send in supporting lock Arwel Davies close to the sticks for a seven-pointer.

When Mike Hathaway

was the victim of a high tackle, Cole again reduced the deficit.

The visitors gave away

a penalty for Cole to make it 10-3,

and further good quality high tempo play

followed from a clean

lineout take by No 8 Dan Apsee.

It led to another

penalty goal by Cole.

Straight from the kick-

off, the Carmarthen full-

back Andrew Steel

launched a counter-attack

that pulled the Athletic

cover from right to left

and back to the right,

where wing Rhys Lewis

stepped inside to release

captain Lee Bassett for a

try that Williams converted.

The Ewenny Road side

then nearly cancelled out

that score when Davies's

pass to Luke Hathaway

was judged marginally

forward. Minutes later,

Cole sent over his third

penalty kick.

Back came the west

Walians for a period of

intense pressure on the

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## Bridgend Athletic earn a point in high scoring and exciting encounter

FOR the second successive week, the Athletic were involved in a high scoring match but this time managed to end up by sharing the spoils with their visitors from West Wales.

However, this was a game that had been theirs for the taking if only they had been a little more abrasive and workmanlike up front, and if the backs had not been so profligate in losing hard won possession.

It seems at the moment as if the back line sees a try as a London commuter views the No 59 bus - if you miss it, there'll be another along in a minute!

Bridgend Athletic were straight on the attack as centre Luke Hathaway, on sprint from Aberavon, made an all embracing tackle on his opposite number to force a penalty that fly-half Tom Cole just pushed wide in the breeze.

The home team continued to exert pressure with centre Davies to the fore, as from a free-kick, he surged forward.

The quick ruck ball was seized by scrum-half Aled Thomas, who went on a wide arcing run around the defence before passing inside to strong running wing Rob Cole to dive over for the opening try.

The Ath were soon back on the attack but a penalty for a deliberate knock-on as they threatened was not converted, although the visitors were reduced to 14 men for 10 minutes.

As the sin bin came to an end, this signalled a period of intense pressure by the Athletic as first Luke Hathaway then Bennett made telling breaks.

When the ball was moved quickly to the left, Lloyd Evans took the pass to score wide out. It transpired that during the build-up, Carmarthen fly-half Williams had been guilty of tripping and he was shown a yellow card.

This was compounded as he showed dissent and left the referee no choice but to take out his red card and leave his team with 14 men for the rest of the game. After a long wait, Cole calmly slotted over the conversion to put the home team back ahead.

Carmarthen now reverted to a much tighter driving phase to eventually force a penalty to take back the advantage.

Then, with the Athletic pressuring the visitors' line, flanker Reynolds broke clear. His kick ahead was not dealt with and he seized on the loose

**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC** 31  
**CARMARTHEN ATHLETIC** 31



ABOVE: Scrum-half Aled Thomas outflanks the defence.

Athletic line until, following good work by flanker Lawrence Reynolds, a try was scored by left wing Rhys Thomas to make the half-time score Bridgend Ath 16 Carmarthen Ath 15.

Despite having possession at the beginning of the half, the Ath came under pressure following a forward pass and a series of drives into their 22 by Carmarthen, which Williams capitalised on by dropping a goal to give his team the lead.

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REPORT AND  
PICTURES BY  
GLYN EVANS ARE  
ON PAGE 20.

The next home game is against Waunarlwydd on October 9. This game will be sponsored by the Athletic Old Boys and all former players are cordially invited to attend.

*Bridgend Athletic are looking for prop forwards and if you want the opportunity to play, please phone director of rugby Paul Yardley on 07939413661 or report to Bridgend Cricket Club Changing Rooms, Newbridge Fields on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30pm for training.* MD